

# THE STANDARD

TEN CENTS.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, AT NO. 42 UNIVERSITY PLACE.

[Entered at the post office in New York as second-class matter.]

VOL. XI., No. 5.  
WHOLE No. 266.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1892.

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## INTERESTING CONTRIBUTIONS.

Among the well-known writers who have promised contributions to THE STANDARD for the year 1892 are Henry George, Thomas G. Shearman, William Lloyd Garrison, Edward Osgood Brown, and Edward J. Shriver. One of the regular contributors is John Farrell, a leading newspaper man of New South Wales, who sends to this paper the only intelligible political news that reaches the United States from Australia. We are making arrangements to increase the list, and in other ways to make the paper more interesting.

The assurances thus far received satisfy us that after this year it will be possible to reduce the price to one dollar a year for all subscribers. We are satisfied of this, not by the new subscriptions actually received, but by that fact together with the manner and the number in which they have come in up to the present time, and the character of the private letters that accompany them. We add over 300 new names to our list this week. Nearly all of these are personal subscriptions, and a very large proportion have come to us directly from the subscribers. The remainder have been solicited and sent in by friends of the paper. From some localities the response to our offer to take new subscriptions for the year 1892 for one dollar has been more than gratifying. Other localities have not fully responded, and some have not responded at all, except by personal subscriptions. But taking it altogether, the plan is proving a success. It cannot fail now, except through the indifference of friends who have frequently assured us of their ability to push the circulation at a reduced price. Those who have made the effort have accomplished what they promised. Many others are yet to hear from, but they are no doubt at work. Any new subscriber may have the paper for the remainder of the present year for one dollar. Annual subscriptions are three dollars.

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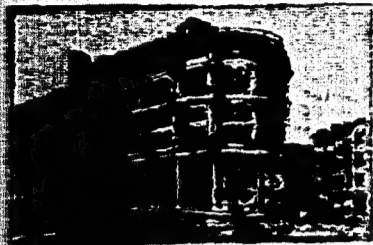
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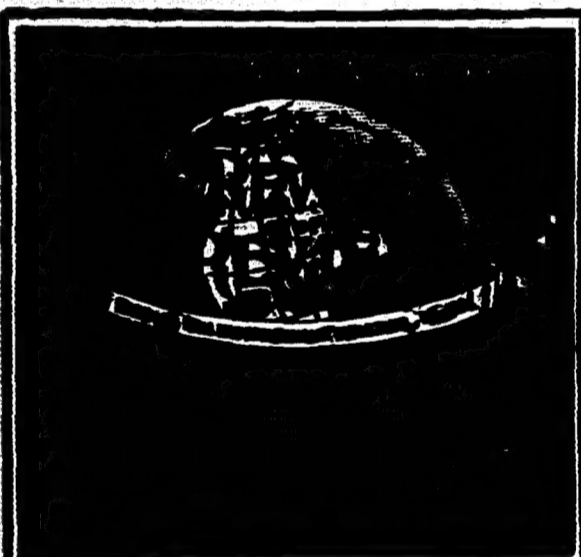
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# THE STANDARD

VOL. XI.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1892.

No. 5.

**SUGGESTION FOR A NEW VILLAGE.**—The people of Toms River, N. J., are applying for a village charter, and with the view of building up the community and making it prosperous they propose to give land free of taxes for a period of years as an inducement for manufacturers to locate there. Gifts of land are inducements to speculators rather than to producers. If the village would exempt the manufacturers' machinery, buildings, and so forth, from taxes, the inducement would appeal to the productive instinct and to nothing else. This would make real prosperity, the signs of which would be seen in the increased value of land in the village, from which village revenues could be derived without burdening anybody but landgrabbers. Manufactures produced under such conditions could be sold cheaper than competing goods manufactured under existing systems of taxation, and the products of Toms River would attract such general attention by their cheapness that times there would never be dull.

**THIRD PARTIES.**—The craze for organizing third parties would seem to have reached the limits of absurdity when it is seriously proposed to unite into a third national party such elements as Prohibitionists, Greenbackers, Farmers' Alliances, Labor parties, and single tax organizations, upon the issues of land, transportation, money, and the saloon; and it is surprising that a man like General Weaver should lend his name to such a chimerical scheme. There seems to be a notion underlying movements of this kind that if all reformers could be united they would carry everything before them. Even if this were true it would be impossible to unite. The report of a national political convention composed of delegates from the Greenbackers, the Prohibitionists, the Farmers' Alliances, the labor organizations, and single tax clubs, would be as funny a specimen of literature as any that Mark Twain ever turned out. It could hardly be improved without admitting delegates from the socialists, the anarchists, the Theosophists, the agnostics, the Freemasons and the Salvation Army. They could agree upon nothing that would amount to anything or point in any direction, and they would break up in a wrangle. But if they could agree, they would as a party make no impression upon politics. All the reformers of all kinds constitute but a small proportion of the community. It is from the great body of the people, not from advocates of other more or less—principally less—harmonious reforms, that any reform must derive its support.

**THE CHILIAN AFFAIR.**—As we expected, an effort was made in Washington to reject the pacific overtures of Chili. It took several forms, the final one being that Chili must salute the American flag as a condition of peace. But the manifestations of popular sentiment against war were too marked, and the administration has now accepted the situation and is doing what should have been done from the start—adjusting the difficulty by peaceful means.

There are two or three important lessons to be drawn from this episode. We have been taught that a formidable navy is a dangerous thing. We have been taught that resident ministers to foreign countries, in these days when travel is easy and envoys may be speedily sent in cases of emergency, not only impose a useless expense, but are liable to involve us in quarrels over questions of national honor and dignity by their interference with the domestic affairs of the people among whom they are sent to reside. We have been taught that governmental interferences with private enterprise make conditions that are at all times favorable to war.

If production and trade among the Chilian people had been free, there would have been no inducement to American speculators to support Balmaceda's usurpation in the expectation of receiving profitable special privileges from him in the event of his success. If trade between the Chilian people and our people had been free, the multiplicity of interests between the masses of our people and those of Chili would have been so important that the very first suggestion of war would have been denounced by the people of both countries. Had we been without a resident minister in Chili during the revolution, and we had no need of one, we should not have become so involved in the domestic quarrel there as to excite the animosity of the outraged people. And but for our new naval equipment, officered by bellicose men who are weary of testing it in sham battles and anxious for the glories and the promotions of actual war, there would have been no landing of a great crowd of naval sailors in a foreign city disordered by civil war and excited by the partisan conduct of our minister, nor any of the brave talk with which for a time our "fighting" naval officers filled the warlike press and influenced the administration.

Commerce is a civilizer of nations and a preventive of war; and

the freer it is the greater security does it offer from the machinations of speculators, the ambitions of professional fighting men, and the plots of politicians.

**HILL'S FATAL BLUNDER.**—We have been criticised for giving so much space to New York politics, but New York politics are really national politics. That has been so for more than two years, and it is so more than ever now. A struggle between politics for principle and politics merely for office is in progress in the Democratic party, and the centre of that struggle is the State of New York. It happens to be the centre because New York is regarded as a pivotal State in Presidential elections, and because the nationally recognized leader on each side of the controversy is a citizen of New York. A crisis in this contest has now been reached, in which every good citizen of every State, to whichever of the two parties he may belong, should take an interest.

As an introduction to one of his short stories, Rudyard Kipling uses these lines, which, in the form of flippant verse, express a great fact of human experience:

Pleasant it is for little tin gods,  
When Great Jove nods;  
But little tin gods make their little mistakes,  
In missing the hour when Great Jove wakes!

It is not probable that Mr. Kipling had Senator Hill in mind when he threw out this warning to little tin gods, but it is just that kind of a warning that Senator Hill has received.

Knowing that the Democratic sentiment of New York was against him, and fearing that he would be beaten in his own State if primaries were held after the question of the nomination had been discussed among the people, yet confident that if he secured the support of the State convention the party would submit, regardless of the means employed, he arranged to have the State convention held on the 22d of February. The State committee was obedient, and late in January its call was issued. The character of this proceeding will be better understood when it is explained that the sole object of the convention is to select delegates to the Presidential Convention of next June, that the time for choosing delegates to the State convention is thus so limited that no public canvass can be made, and that it has been customary to hold these conventions not earlier than April and usually as late as May. The only precedent for an earlier convention of this kind in New York State is that which the Republican third term machine called in the interest of the renomination of Grant. There can be but one object for holding such a convention long before the meeting of the National convention to which it is to send delegates. It is to enable men who make a business of politics to obtain advantages which would be beyond their reach if a full and fair expression of party sentiment were allowed.

In this particular case the object is to secure, by the "snap" judgment of a premature State Convention of the Democratic party, a formal endorsement of Hill, which the party in his State would not give. But Hill and his associates miscalculated in supposing that New York Democrats would meekly acquiesce in this culminating outrage upon their rights. The little tin god has at last made his little mistake. A movement, led by the most representative Democrats of New York, is already on foot to head off the "snap" convention. On the 11th a mass meeting will be held in New York, and this will be followed by others, both in the city and over the State; and if the convention of the 22d of this month presumes to misrepresent the party, another convention will be held in May.

This places the reactionaries in a very embarrassing position. Though they laugh they are not tickled. When their "snap" convention meets, it might dissolve without electing national delegates, and call another convention upon reasonable notice and for an appropriate season. But this would be a confession both of rascality and weakness, and Hill would linger long before making a confession of weakness. He cannot go backward. Without having called a "snap" convention he would have had but little chance of an endorsement; having called it and then abandoned it, he would have none at all. Hill's convention of the 22d of February must name national delegates. Not to do so is to declare Hill out of the race. But if it does name them, another and really representative convention will be held in May. That, too, will name delegates; and it is easy to foresee how the two delegations will be treated by delegates from other States, most of whom will have been chosen by the party and not by little machines that have captured the party. The story of the "snap" convention would make an indictment under which Hill and his confederates would be condemned. The plea of regularity is all that they could fall back upon.

But regularity means no more than that they would have the credentials of the regular trustees of the party, and the evidence of a breach of trust on the part of those trustees would be so overwhelming that in that contest the word "regularity" would be a reproach.

In the compromising spirit that appears in such contingencies, the "regulars" might be allowed half a vote, but they would fare well if they got that. The general contempt for Hill; the fear and hatred of Tammany Hall; the suspicion that there is a conspiracy on foot against the Democratic party, of which Hill, Gorman, and Brice are the engineers; together with the "snap" convention as an overt act in pursuance of that conspiracy, would have a strong tendency to shut out even the spirit of compromise.

**COUNTY OPTION IN TAXATION.**—The bill for allowing counties in the State of New York to tax land values, improvement values, or personal property, or any two or all three, has been introduced in the Legislature by Assemblyman Connelly. The Knights of Labor Congress of the State has already approved it, and ordered the Legislative Committee to urge its passage. The State Workingmen's Assembly has done the same thing. In the Legislature this year there is a strong sentiment in favor of the measure, those members who studied the subject last winter and have since conferred with their constituents being particularly outspoken in its favor.

Last year the bill was reported favorably by the House Committee on Taxation, the only bill that was so reported; but it was not reached on the calendar of the House for discussion. This year there are listing bills, corporation tax bills, real estate tax bills, and inheritance tax bills; but there is little doubt that the county option bill will meet with most favor, and though it may not pass at the present session, it will be so far advanced and become so general a subject of discussion that it is almost certain to pass next year. The more it is discussed and the better it is understood the brighter will its prospects become. No fair objection can be raised to it. Some parts of the State oppose listing bills and other parts oppose real estate taxation. This bill would enable each section to decide for itself what form of taxation to adopt. And whatever form any section might adopt, no other section would be prejudiced if the form were a bad one; the county adopting it would suffer alone. Any one who objects to such an equitable bill must do so because he wants to place burdens on other counties which he does not wish his own county to bear.

**NEW YORK'S NEXT SENATOR.**—The man who will probably take Mr. Hiscock's place in the United States Senate is Governor Roswell P. Flower. Any one of three contingencies may push him aside. Between now and next winter Senator Hill, however, may change his mind, as he did in the case of Smith Weed: Senator Hill, in his efforts to overreach, may wholly lose his faculty for "ultimate arrival;" or, Governor Flower may die. But up to date Governor Flower is booked for the seat. The arrangement, doubtless made before the fall election and now so obvious that the commonest observer may see it, is to let Lieutenant-Governor Sheehan into the Governor's chair by honorably retiring Flower to a place in the Federal Senate, thus at once gratifying Flower's ambition for the mere honor of office, the only political ambition he has ever had, and fixing the Hill regime in power in the State. In Hill's absence, Sheehan is really the Governor now.

Flower refers all political questions to him, and in the general administration of the Governor's office he is guided by a mentor whose voice is the voice of Hill though his touch be that of Sheehan.

The situation between these men is altogether ticklish, and yet in its very weakness there is a kind of strength. If Flower should declare his independence, a large part of Hill's political capital would be gone. This practically makes Hill exceedingly careful to retain the confidence of the Governor. On the other hand, if Hill found that he could or must get along without Flower, the Senatorial wreath would wither before the latter's eyes, and this is a constant incentive to Flower to be docile and obedient.

The cunning manner in which Hill arranged to work Sheehan into the Governor's chair, over the protests and with the active assistance of Democrats who regard him as worse than an open enemy of the party, is admirable in its way. Hill "quarrelled" with Sheehan, and allowed it to "leak" out that he was opposed to Sheehan's demands for the Lieutenant-Governorship; he then started a "soft money" scare, and upon that concentrated all the attention of the Democrats whom he found it necessary to delude; and when it was said that he had been beaten on the money question, and been "turned down," he humbly acquiesced. Meantime he was effecting arrangements with Flower, of whom it was reported that Hill could not beat him, and with Sheehan, of whom it was reported that he had deserted his old chief; and the process of "turning down" Hill was completed by the nomination of his man Flower for Governor, and his other man, Sheehan, for Lieutenant-Governor, and by the creation of a State committee that has proved to be a chunk of

putty in Hill's deft hands. Oblivious to the true situation, the Democrats whom Hill had set out to delude were duly deluded, and with might and main they worked for the success of his plans. By means of their work, what would have been a failure was made a success; hardly were the votes counted and the result known, before the "turned down" Hill turned up, bigger and brighter and more devilish than ever. What he was before to the pot-hunting politicians of New York he has now become to the pot-hunting politicians of the United States. If the Democracy of the country were independent of the situation in New York, they might laugh at it; but it is their funeral too.

**TARIFF AND MONEY.**—Replying to our comment upon its editorial regarding the situation of political parties, Harper's Weekly speaks of the currency question as having risen steadily in importance, and says that for some years the danger from wild financial legislation has been evident. It therefore considers that question as of no less pressing importance than the tariff issue. This is because the Weekly has a tendency to regard political evils as unrelated. Opposed to high tariffs and opposed also to soft money, if both are equally imminent it looks upon both as equally dangerous. But such dangers as the soft money agitation may threaten are, in fact, due to the operation of protection, and with free trade they would disappear. If the Weekly does not see it, that is because it does not go to the root of the tariff question.

All the soft money agitation we have, or ever have had, has been prompted by industrial depressions; and it has been most prevalent when and where the people who suffer most from such depressions are in the habit of using cash for buying goods and paying debts. From lack of cash they are restricted in their purchases and burdened with their debts, and not unnaturally they attribute their difficulties to a general deficiency of money. They argue that if money were plentiful their own goods would have a better market, and they would get their share of the increased supply of cash as it passed around. They do not see, as doubtless the Weekly does, that the real cause of their trouble lies back of the money question; that with the development of banking, and the consequent extension of bookkeeping, cash is becoming less and less important for every purpose but pocket change; and that industrial depressions are due, not to deficient circulation of money, but to deficient circulation of goods. But they can be made to see it. Not, however, by charging them with dishonesty for trying to increase the supply of money, nor by presenting the tariff issue to them as a question of more or less taxation; but by showing them that it is goods for goods that they need, and that the tariff—any tariff—obstructs the circulation of goods, by means of which alone their wants can be supplied. When they understand that, "wild financial legislation" will no longer interest them, nor any longer be a threatening factor in American politics.

**THE LETTER WRITING CORPS.**—The letter writing corps, one of the agencies of the Single Tax Propaganda Association, often makes converts in most unexpected quarters. To a man who is thinking earnestly but vaguely of social questions, a few letters directing his attention to the true character of the single tax will be as a brilliant light in the darkness. Any prejudice he may have imbibed by reading the distorted explanations that frequently appear in the newspapers will be removed; and though he may not be converted at once, his interest will be excited. With candid and intelligent men nothing more is needed. It is the business of the corps to correspond with any one who seems to be interested in the subject and open to conviction. It is systematically organized, and the secretary instructs its members weekly regarding the persons with whom to correspond, together with the special subject of correspondence. The chief difficulty which the secretary encounters is that of obtaining names of persons with whom correspondence may be judiciously opened. Readers of this paper may assist her and contribute to single tax agitation by sending in names and addresses and such suggestions as may insure appropriate and effective letters. The secretary's name and address is given every week, in connection with the weekly instructions to the corps, in the department of Single Tax News.

In this connection we are glad to call attention to a suggestion by Edward L. Vallandigham, in a letter to the editor, published on another page. He proposes that single tax clubs take steps to secure ignorant newspaper criticisms of the single tax, and answer them in the papers in which they appear. This work could be done better by the letter writing corps than by any other existing agency, and it is highly important. More opposition is aroused by newspaper misrepresentation than in any other way; and prompt replies to these misrepresentations, through the very papers that publish them, would be most effective in making the people familiar with and advocates of the single tax.

Send orders to THE STANDARD for Henry George's reply to the Pope. Cloth, 75c.; paper, 50c.

## PARTY NOMINATIONS BY POPULAR VOTE.

D. C. McMILLAN.

While the new system of elections adopted in many of the States has resulted in substantial benefits, assuring greater secrecy to the action of the voter, and protecting him from debasing influences, the method adopted in New York, and I believe elsewhere, has failed in so far as it aimed to establish the real independence of the voter, by releasing him from the thralldom of party machinery. It was against this machinery that the impulse of the independent movement of a few years ago was directed; its inspiration was received from the deep seated indignation roused to overthrow party machines, operating within caucus agencies, whose structure was calculated to deprive the people of any voice in the selection of public servants. Nothing could have been more foreign to the aims of the authors of the new system than to increase the power of these agencies, and yet the recent legislation has given legal sanction to the machinery of the leading political parties and defined the method of independent action, surrounding the processes by which that sentiment receives expression with restrictions suited rather to repress its influence than to aid its development. As a consequence, the relative vote of parties and the power of their machinery remains unimpaired. This outcome illustrates the difficulty of securing the freedom of the voter in the performance of two distinct acts of nomination and election of candidates at a single election.

Under the operation of the law in New York, the question whether a body of Republicans or Democrats making a nomination outside of primaries and conventions, called under the "regular" and ordinary methods of the party, were entitled to have them certified as Republican or Democratic nominations, has frequently come up before the courts, and the decisions have been uniform, so far as I have heard, that the persons making such nominations must do so by petition under the rules for the presentation of independent candidates. If the decisions had been otherwise, the independence of the voter would have been fully insured, but it is probable that so many candidates would then be presented for the popular suffrage, each standing upon an equal plane and having an equal claim upon the attention of the respective political parties, that the votes distributed between them would be scattered, and the result would be a choice of one of them by a vote so small as to deprive it of the semblance of an expression of the popular will.

As the writer has always contended in urging the primary reform measures, introduced and urged upon the Legislature of New York some years since by the Hon. Erastus Brooks, the party sense is so strong as to demand some agencies by which the votes of all professing a common principle may unite and give the most effective expression to the prevailing impulse. Thus party machinery has grown up, and its control by a few, or frequently by one man, has vested the practical choice of parties in the selection of candidates in the hands of political bosses, rendering impossible or nugatory any effective co-operation in the choice of candidates on the part of the membership of the parties. The calls for their assemblies, the designation of places of meeting, the credentials of voters, and the counting of the votes, are all matters decided by persons often obedient to the will of the bosses, and finally the choice is not for candidates, but for delegates secretly pledged to do the will of the party leader—every step in the process affording opportunity for nullifying the will of the members of the organization.

There is but one way in which the unprejudiced and independent voice of the voter, acting as a member of his party, can be expressed, and that is by a method of elections which will assure him that in acting as his conscience dictates in making a selection from among the candidates of his party he will in no way endanger the principle for which his party contends. When he has the means of making a selection of a candidate without doing by the act something which contributes to the election of his political adversary—then the political independence of the voter will be secured. And this can be accomplished only by a method of elections which will permit the voter either to do both the act of nomination and election upon the ballot which he casts, or by separating the two acts and having an election for the choice of candidates and a second ballot for their final election.



The latter method was embodied in the bills of Mr. Brooks, which were drawn by the writer and have been fully discussed in a work by the latter given to the public in 1877. A plan by which the two distinct acts of nomination and election can be performed by the voter at one election is presented below. It obviates practically all the objections which were urged in opposition to the Brooks bills, and unless there are constitutional objections of grave import to its adoption, no reason would seem to exist why it should not be enacted into law. The plan is presented for criticism or correction. The language in which it is couched may be improved, but it is sufficiently clear for the purpose designed in its publication:

An act to provide for the nomination and election of candidates for office at general and special elections. (Enacting clause.)

Section 1. Hereafter at any general or special election for State or other officers, upon each ballot may appear as a caption thereto the name of the political party of which the voter is a member; and upon said ballot may be printed a direction to the inspectors of election in the words following, to wit: "This ballot shall be counted in the first instance for the person named thereon for each office, but if such person fails to receive the highest number of votes for said office upon ballots having a like caption, then said ballot shall be counted for the person having the highest number of votes upon said ballots."

Sec. 2. As many different candidates may be nominated for the same office, by or on behalf of the same political party, as there may be committees, conventions or primary meetings claiming to represent said party, or any portion of the members thereof, making and certifying nominations; and the name of said political party shall be printed as a caption upon the different ballots containing the names of the candidates so nominated; but the name of no candidate shall be printed upon more than one kind of ballot.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Inspectors of Election to ascertain first the number of votes given for every candidate for each office upon the ballots having the same caption, and all votes directed to be counted as provided in Section 1 of this act for the candidate having the highest number of votes thereon shall be counted for said candidate, and the result declared after said votes are so counted.

It is not unusual for ballots to contain words in addition to the names of the candidates. It occasionally happens that the voter expresses his views in words upon his ballot, and the ballot is duly canvassed. In voting for constitutional amendments, for appropriations, or in taking the sense of the people upon any question of local policy, the ballots contain words expressing the desire of the voter; and hence there is nothing novel, and it seems to me, nothing illegal, in permitting a directory clause to the inspectors to be placed upon ballots and providing for having them counted as the voter desires.

In actual operation, the canvass of an election district might show the results indicated below: A, D, and G are Democratic candidates for Governor; J, M, and P are Republican candidates for the same office. The other letters named represent the respective candidates for Secretary of State and Comptroller. Each ballot is presumed to contain the direction referred to. The canvass shows in the first instance the following result:

Upon ballots having the caption "Democratic":

For Governor.....	A, 500	D, 300	G, 100
For Secretary of State.....	B, 450	E, 325	H, 100
For Comptroller.....	C, 510	F, 250	I, 25

Upon ballots having the caption "Republican":

For Governor.....	J, 325	M, 450	P, 200	S, 100
For Secretary of State.....	K, 350	N, 425	Q, 150	T, 150
For Comptroller.....	L, 430	O, 350	R, 140	U, 125

Of course, there could be ballots having the caption of "Prohibition," "Independent," or other party names, but those given will be sufficient for illustration.

In the canvass by the inspectors it is found, therefore, that A has the highest number of votes for Governor, B for Secretary of State, and C for Comptroller, upon Democratic ballots, while M, N and L have the highest number of Republican votes for those offices respectively; and these candidates, by virtue of the direction of the voters, become entitled to the remainder of the votes

Mr. Duncan C. McMillan was born at Rondout, N. Y., March 3, 1848. Upon reaching maturity he was employed as reporter upon the New York World while that journal was controlled by Manton Marble. About 1870 he acted as general editor of the Newburgh, N. Y., Telegraph, and Middletown, N. Y., Mercury. In 1872 and 1873 he purchased the Kingston, N. Y., Press, a Republican newspaper, and converting it into an independent Democratic journal, succeeded in transforming Ulster County, which had given 500 Republican majority at the previous Presidential election, into a Democratic county, the majority for Tilden being 2,121. For his work Mr. McMillan received the personal thanks of Governor Tilden in a letter commending the service and ability of his paper. For several years thereafter Mr. McMillan was employed as stenographer in the Attorney-General's office at Albany.

In the early years of his life his attention had been attracted to the manner in which the machinery of primaries and conventions was manipulated to stifle the expression of the party and public will, and the result of his observations was the publication of a work on "The Elective Franchise in the United States," a little volume which attracted wide attention. At about this time he formed the acquaintance of the late John Kelly, and a strong personal and political attachment existed between them during the latter's life. The editorial columns of the Evening Express and the New York Star, successively owned by Mr. Kelly, were placed at the disposal of Mr. McMillan, who employed them in advocating his views of primary reform.

In 1892 Mr. McMillan was a strong advocate of Mr. Cleveland's nomination for Governor, and was closely identified with the independent influences, contributing to his success as a candidate for Governor and President. At present he is one of the editorial writers upon the Journal of Finance and is managing the sale of the U. S. Postal Guide in this State. Outside of his profession, he has never held public office and is domestic in his habits, seldom attending public gatherings. He is a resident of Piermont, N. Y.

cast for the other candidates of their respective parties. A final canvass is therefore made, and shows the following result:

	Democratic.	Republican.
For Governor.....	A, 300	M, 1,075
For Secretary of State.....	B, 875	N, 1,075
For Comptroller.....	C, 785	L, 1,045

If this represented a final canvass as of a State, M, N, and L would be declared elected. Whatever objection might be made to this plan, it is certain that every voter would go to the polls perfectly assured that in the exercise of his free choice in the selection of his party candidate his vote in no event would tend to contribute to the election of his political adversary, and where now he is constrained either to smother his resentment toward candidates he believes unworthy, or vote for principles he abhors, he would be permitted an affirmative choice for the candidate of his desire, whose qualifications or views commended him to the attention of voters.

### DIRECT TAXATION.

THOMAS G. SHEARMAN.

A few ardent believers in direct taxation are urging an immediate demand upon Congress for the adoption of a system of strictly direct taxation by the Federal Government, either upon land values alone or upon real estate values generally. A few words ought to make it plain why such an attempt, just at this time, would be utterly useless and would only hinder the progress of the single tax idea.

The Federal Constitution requires all direct taxes to be apportioned among the States in proportion to population, and not to wealth. The West has the population; but the East has the wealth. Every Western dollar would be taxed twice or thrice as heavily as an Eastern dollar. If direct taxation were adopted at once, and the rate of tax upon New York and Massachusetts were 1 per cent., it would be 3 per cent. in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Texas and all States west or south of Ohio.

Thus, the population of Illinois and Indiana together is about equal to that of New York. But the real estate of Illinois and Indiana was assessed in 1900 at \$1,138,535,000, while that of New York was assessed at \$3,363,167,000. The population of Texas is equal to that of Massachusetts. But the real estate of Texas was valued at only \$497,452,000, while that of Massachusetts was valued at \$1,000,128,000. No matter whether the direct tax should be levied upon land values alone, or upon real estate alone, or upon real and personal estate, the result would be the same. Texas property would be taxed more than three times as heavily as Massachusetts property.

It is true that the present system of indirect taxes produces this result and even worse results. It is true that the West would gain largely by the abolition of the tariff, even if direct taxes were levied upon this unjust principle. But no one can prove this to the satisfaction of the Western farmer. His head is not long enough for such calculations. He can never be converted to direct taxation upon land or real estate values so long as this clause remains in the Constitution.

Well then, it will be asked: "Is nothing to be done?" By no means. First, we must keep up the educational work, to prepare the minds of the people for the true system of taxation. Secondly, we must urge an amendment of the Constitution, abolishing this unjust clause as to apportionment of taxation. Every Western State would vote for such an amendment, if attention were called to it. So would every Southern State. The only States which profit by this clause are the New England States, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and possibly Delaware. These constitute less than one-fourth of all the States; and therefore they could not prevent the passage of the amendment. But they would not try to do so. It would be so perfectly fair that no State would oppose it, if Congress could be induced to take interest enough to pass it.

Meantime, the friends of the single tax should join in the demand for an income tax, as a temporary measure, in place of the tariff. That would fall more heavily upon the East than upon the West; and Western farmers can easily be led to favor it. When the income tax is adopted, the rich men of this country will take a lively interest in questions of taxation. They will be very glad to exchange it for the tax on land values, and to help forward an amendment of the Constitution, for the purpose of enabling Congress to adopt some plan of strictly direct taxation other than the income tax.

For the benefit of some, who will ask whether the income tax is constitutional without being apportioned among the States according to population, we can assure them that it is. The point was settled, long ago, by the Supreme Court of the United States, in an action brought by Mr. William M. Springer, now chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, who argued in vain in opposition to the law. The court held that, although the income tax is a direct tax, it is not such a direct tax as the framers of the Constitution

meant when they framed that instrument. But they did hold that a tax upon the value of land was such a tax.

It is not impossible that an income tax could be used as a tax upon ground rents alone and thus made a convenient method of introducing the single tax; but that involves considerations of fine points of law not now capable of useful discussion.

If we could get rid of the constitutional restriction upon direct taxation, and levy taxes upon either real estate alone or ground rents alone, the Atlantic States, from Maine to Maryland, with the District of Columbia, having less than 34 per cent. of all the population, would pay over 53 per cent. of all the taxes.

### COUNTY HOME RULE IN TAXATION.

John Connolly, of the Nineteenth District of New York, has presented, in the lower house of the New York Legislature, the bill for county home rule in taxation, which was favorably reported by the Committee on Taxation last year. Argument before committee will be heard on the 9th of February. The bill reads as follows:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of all assessors and officers performing the duties of assessors, in assessing real property of any kind, to assess the value of land separately from all buildings, fences, structures, drains, crops, plants, trees, and other improvements thereon, and to state, in separate columns, the assessed value of the land and of the improvements.

Sec. 2. The Board of Supervisors in each county may, in its discretion, levy all taxes upon and in proportion to the assessed value of real estate alone, including land and all improvements thereon, or upon the assessed value of land alone, exclusive of improvements, and of personal property, or upon the assessed value of personal property alone, or upon the assessed value of land, improvements and personal property together.

Sec. 3. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed as diminishing the proportion of the State tax, which any county might be required to pay into the State treasury, under existing laws, or under any laws which may be hereafter enacted; but in every county all real and personal property shall be assessed and returned in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by law; and any county in which the Board of Supervisors may exempt from taxation any species of property, by virtue of the power hereby conferred, shall, nevertheless, pay the same proportion of the State tax which it would be liable to pay if no such exemption were made.

### THE CHILIAN STORY.

Last Thursday, at the Reform Club, Ricardo L. Trumbull, a Chilean Senator, told the story of the Chilean Revolution. Mr. Trumbull is a descendant of Jonathan Trumbull of our own revolutionary fame. His mother is a native Chilean, and he himself was born in Chili. He made no effort at speech-making, merely telling his story, and substantiating every important statement with incontestable documentary evidence. Following is an outline of what he said:

President Balmaceda, having undertaken to perpetuate his power, issued a decree suspending the operation of all laws that stood in his way. The Supreme Court declared his decree a nullity, and by another decree he abolished the Supreme Court. The revolution followed, and soon the Congressional party, which resisted Balmaceda's usurpation, acquired jurisdiction over the larger part of the territory of Chili, that from which very much the largest proportion of public revenues were derived, maintained an army and navy, regularly administered justice in the courts, and became a government *de facto*, if not *de jure*.

While the war between the old government and the new was in progress, the new government sent an agent to the United States to purchase arms. American lawyers of eminence were consulted, and upon their advice that the purchase and shipment of arms by the ordinary methods of trade would be a commercial transaction and in no way a breach of the neutrality laws, arms were shipped from New York to San Francisco, where they were taken on board the Robert and Minnie, a commercial vessel, which, when beyond the jurisdiction of the United States, transferred them to the Itata, also a commercial vessel. Previous to the transfer the Itata was in the harbor of Santiago, Cal., where it was seized, not by a United States officer, as stated in the President's message, but by a private detective in the employment of Balmaceda. So long as the captain of the Itata supposed he was in the custody of the United States, he submitted to the arrest; but when he learned that the custody was really that of Balmaceda, he sailed away, landing the detective, however, before passing out of American jurisdiction. Subsequently, the consignment of arms was transferred to the Itata and carried to Chili. The American Government pursued the Itata, but did not find her until she was in Chilean waters. Upon demand and on promise of a speedy trial, the Itata was allowed to return to Santiago with her cargo of arms in the custody of an American naval vessel, and the Congressional Army, deprived of their property, were obliged to obtain arms from Europe with which they prosecuted the war and overthrew the dictator. A speedy trial was not given. The matter was still pending in the United States courts when the final victory of the Congressional party over Balmaceda was achieved. The American Government proposed to abandon the prosecution provided the new government of Chili, by making some trifling compensation to the detective who had held the Itata in the harbor of Santiago, would acknowledge that it had been in the wrong. This was declined, and upon a trial in the American courts, judgment in favor of Chili was rendered, showing that the Washington administration had been in the wrong throughout.

But the Itata incident was not the only one that showed unfairness toward the Congressional Government of Chili on the part of President Harrison's administration. Admiral Brown communicated important informa-

tion regarding the Congressional military movements to Balmaceda, to the prejudice of the Congressionals. At the request of Balmaceda, upon the recommendation of the American Minister to Chili, and under the protection of the American Government, the cable that connected the Congressional Government with the rest of the world was cut and spliced with Balmaceda's cable beyond the three mile limit, whereby Balmaceda was afforded cable facilities of the greatest importance of which until then, by the fortunes of the war in which he was engaged, he had been deprived. And at the close of the war, the residence of the American Minister was made an asylum for Balmaceda and his associates under circumstances that would have found a parallel in this country in 1865 had the British Minister at Washington made his residence an asylum for Jefferson Davis.

This was the situation in Chili when, at the close of the war, Captain Schley, of the American naval vessel the "Baltimore," allowed over 100 sailors to go ashore in Valparaiso. A disturbance occurred in a disreputable part of the city, which spread, and in it some of the sailors were injured. The matter was taken up at once by the Chilean courts; every facility was given the sailors for a fair hearing; and they were represented by an officer of their ship who was familiar with the language of the country. Upon the result of this hearing, Chili has always been willing to make any reparation to the United States which the justice of the case might require. There is in Chili no animosity toward the United States, nor any adverse feeling whatever, except such as may have been excited among inconsiderate people by the partisanship exhibited by the administration at Washington and the American Minister during the war against the dictator.

#### THE RICE MILLS OF PORT MYSTERY.

B. F. Heuston, of Tacoma, Washington, has written a book bearing the above title and published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., of Chicago, which is unique, interesting, and productive of thought, but which, for lack of a little romance in the story and a little caution in developing the mystery, will not become popular. It suggests, though it is really not, one of that class of books of which Bellamy's is the type, that give in fanciful outline what Sir Boyle Roche might have called "the history of the future." Like Bellamy's, this book takes the historical form, but, unlike his, it deals in great degree with actual history; and, despite its title and the genuine mystery which it develops, there is nothing in it that is not either a true account of what has happened, or of what might be done within the limits of common knowledge.

The author begins with a picturesque description of the Northwest, following that with a graphic account of its discovery and early settlement; and after bringing his history of the country down to the present, he leads up to the mystery with a review of mechanical and chemical invention. Then the story opens. The hero of the book had invented a secret machine or process with which rice was artificially produced by combining carboniferous products with air and water. The better to secure his secret, he set up the machines in the most secluded spot on Puget's Sound, where they could be approached only through a cove that was almost completely concealed, the place being otherwise inaccessible. That was all the world knew about the seat of operations. But it did know that cargo after cargo of coal and timber disappeared in this mysterious cove, and in its stead there was returned cargo after cargo of rice so perfectly composed and symmetrically moulded that no expert could tell it from the natural. The industry developed rapidly, and in a single year 20,000 men were engaged directly and indirectly in turning the wood and coal of the Northwest into as good rice as was ever shipped from any port in the world. But this was not all. Many more men were actively employed in a variety of ways who but for the rice machines would have been idle, or if at work living upon starvation wages; and the price of rice fell so enormously that, wages being kept up by means of constant employment, workers were enriched both as to outgo and income.

Of course, there was an uproar. Southern rice planters sent a petition to Congress, in which they asked that the new manufacture be prohibited, or so taxed that by reason of the rise in price they could successfully compete. They were seconded by trades unions, farmers' alliances, and other bodies, some actuated by selfish motives and some by misdirected public spirit. Congress, for a wonder, refused to interfere. Meantime the inventor of the rice machine invented other machines, likewise kept beyond the secret cove, by means of which wool shipped to Port Mystery, as the inventor's retreat was called, was returned in the form of finished products in great variety and of high quality, but salable at low prices. In the midst of the resulting prosperity the inventor died. The nation was thrown into mourning, and when the thought came that the secret might have died with him, business was paralyzed. But when the inventor's will was opened it appeared that, while giving his shipping to his associates, he had given his real estate and all his processes to the State. Upon the publication of the will business started up. Then there was such delay on the part of the executor in filing an inventory that the people were incensed, and the court appointed three well-known citizens to act as appraisers.

The appraisers went at once to Port Mystery, but what was their surprise upon arriving at finding there nothing but shipping. There were no rice



mills, nor were they able to discover any recipes for turning wood and coal into rice, or wool into carpets and blankets. The executor insisted that nothing had been concealed, and the appraisers were indignant. They were not men who could be trifled with, however, and they persisted, determined not to leave the place until they had fully performed the duty with which they were charged. At last they made a discovery. It completely opened their eyes, and warranted them in returning with the report that the executor had indeed concealed nothing. To explain what this discovery was would be to disclose the mystery, and that is better done in the book than it could be here. It is sufficient to say that the appraisers were at a loss to know, as the reader also will be, how they could have been so blind to the conditions in which they lived as not to have understood it all long before. They could have done the trick themselves. The mystery was like that of Columbus and the egg—simple enough when explained.

Mr. Heuston's book is defective in allowing the reader to assume that wood was turned into rice by means of occult chemical and mechanical processes. There is nothing in that to excite the interest of any one but a mechanic or a chemist; and it indicates that the book is a variation of Bellamy's story, while in fact it bears no resemblance. Moreover, that is not the explanation. If Mr. Heuston were to so remodel his work as to arouse and maintain curiosity in the mystery until the death of the inventor, the remainder of the book would be read with interest. As it is, interest flags, because the supposed explanation is foreseen long before the true explanation is approached. It would have been better, too, to have described documents instead of quoting them; and had the story been enlivened somewhat with romance, as well as improved in the other particulars, its success would have been almost certain. To the ordinary reader of light literature it will appear to be lacking in the quality known as "human interest."

B. F. Heuston, the author of the criticised book, was born in Western Wisconsin, and attended the University of that State, after which he was admitted to the bar and entered the office of Cameron, Losey & Bunn, at La Crosse, the leading firm in that section, remaining three years. He then removed to Winona, Minn., where for four years he was engaged with Wilson & Bowers. During these four years Mr. Heuston was assistant attorney for the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company in Minnesota. Tiring of the hardships attendant upon traveling in such a frigid country he decided to settle in a milder locality and came to Tacoma. Mr. Heuston, who is a single tax free trader, speaks several languages, is a stenographer, telegrapher, and civil engineer, and his legal ability is attracting attention.

#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

##### TAXATION IN PHILADELPHIA.

"Inquirer," writing from Boston, says that in a recent discussion concerning house rents the statement was made that not only were rents cheaper in Philadelphia than in other cities, but that a larger proportion of dwellings were owned by their occupants than in any other large place, the explanation being that in Philadelphia the heaviest proportion of taxes was levied on the land, and he asks if the explanation is correct.

George E. Chase, of Philadelphia, replies:

The heaviest portion of municipal taxes in Philadelphia is levied on real estate, but land and improvements are not valued nor assessed separately. Taxes are levied on personal property and corporations for State purposes, and national taxes are, of course, the same as elsewhere. The municipal tax is about \$20,000,000; real estate pays about \$15,000,000, and about \$5,000,000 is raised from the gas and water works, which are owned by the city. It has been calculated that on average the land value is about 50 per cent. of the whole value of the real estate in the city, so that \$7,000,000, or about one-third of the municipal taxes, fall on land values. Rents are double as high in Philadelphia as they were thirty years ago; and only a small proportion of dwellings are owned by their occupants, many occupants who are nominally owners being in fact burdened with mortgages.

##### PROTECTION FOR LANDLESS MEN.

Thomas J. Miller, a cigar manufacturer of Olympia, Washington, writes that he believes that land should be common property, and is convinced that the single tax would in effect make it so; but before he can subscribe to the doctrine of free trade he must have a serious objection removed. He thinks that if foreign manufactures were imported cheaper than they could be made here, opportunities for factory work in America would be to that degree diminished. The fallacy of this objection lies in the assumption that when American laborers are driven out of any field of mechanical industry they can find nothing to do unless land is opened so that they may engage in farming. This fallacy springs from another, that the importation of foreign manufactures does not increase the production of American manufactures of other kinds. Mr. Miller uses bicycles for an illustration, saying that if Englishmen can make them cheaper than we can the landless American workman who makes bicycles would, under free trade, "be obliged to compete with other landless workmen who were as yet working in industries that were protected against foreign competition either by natural superiority or distance." Thus he assumes that we should lose an industry, bicycle making, which creates a demand for other American manufactures to supply the wants of our bicycle makers; that Englishmen would do more work than before in bicycle making, thereby increasing their demand for such other American manufactures; that the increased product of English bicycle makers would come here; and yet that the demand for workmen in the other industries here would be no greater than before. This assumption involves the groundless supposition that when Englishmen sent their bicycles here they would take back no manufactures that we produced. If they did, the demand for labor in other departments would be to that extent increased; and though our displaced bicycle workers were obliged to compete for work in other industries, the demand for workers in those industries would be greater. If English bicycles were bought by Americans to the same extent, in point of aggregate value, as American bicycles were bought by Americans before, the effect on American bicycle workmen here would involve nothing but a change of employment. The demand for

workmen in the bicycle industry would disappear, but the demand for workmen in other industries would be that much greater. But English bicycles being cheaper, the sales, in point of aggregate value, would be greater than before, because more people would want bicycles; and to the extent of this greater aggregate value the demand for workers in all American industries would be higher than before.

Mr. Miller already understands that interferences with production are injurious to workingmen; and when he sees, as after a little consideration he will, that trade is production, as necessary to civilized life as primary production is to individual life, he will realize that protection is as bad for landless workingmen as hanging is for consumptive men.

Even if all manufactures were, by cheap importations, driven out of this country, and the whole community confined to farming—a grossly absurd concession, as Mr. Miller knows—the increased demand for farmers would more than offset the diminished demand for mechanics. There can be no importation without exportation. Something must go out if anything comes in; and the cheaper things come in the more will come, and consequently the more will go.

## SINGLE TAX NEWS.

The underlying principle of the single tax—that the earth belongs equally to all, and that the best way to secure substantial justice is to tax the occupant an amount equal to the yearly value of the land—is sound.—*Journal of the Knights of Labor*, September 24, 1891.

We have no hesitation in declaring our belief that the ideal taxation lies in the single land tax, laid exclusively on the rental value of land, independent of improvements.—*New York Times*, January 10, 1891.

The best and surest subject of taxation is the thing that perforce stays in one place; that is land.—*New York Sun*, August 26, 1891.

Every one of these taxes [on commodities and buildings] the ostensible taxpayer—showing on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—*Detroit News*, November 1, 1891.

The Bee does not say that it will never be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it pauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances.—*Sacramento (Cal.) Bee*.

The National Committee is carrying on the newspaper work of the Memphis committee in supplying news companies with single tax matter for their ready prints and plates, and is preparing the petition for presentation to Congress.

Contributions for running expenses of office for week ending February 1 are as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Burrell, Germantown, Pa. .... \$1.00  
Reported last week ..... 26.81

Total ..... \$27.81

Contributions to special fund for preparing petition for presentation for week ending February 1 are as follows:

Philadelphia Single Tax Society, Philadelphia, Pa., \$10; Richard Spencer, Burlington, Iowa, \$10; Wm. Porter, Cape May City, N. J., \$1; M. C. R., New York City, \$1; W. L. Croxman, Roxbury, Mass., \$1; C. G. Buck, Chicago, Ill., \$4; C. M. Davis, Chicago, Ill., 50c.; Cash, Chicago, Ill., 50c.; Marshall Beck, Chicago, Ill., \$1; J. T. Ripley, Chicago, Ill., \$1; Miss Pennington, Chicago, Ill., 25c.; Mrs. I. Borer, Chicago, Ill., 25c.; Miss Leonora Beck, Chicago, Ill., 25c.; Geo. V. Wells, Chicago, Ill., 25c.; F. W. Erwin, Chicago, Ill., 50c.; H. W. McFarlan, Chicago, Ill., \$1; W. W. Bailey, Chicago, Ill., 50c.; Edward Moore, Chicago, Ill., \$1.

Total for week ..... \$34.00  
Previously acknowledged ..... 47.00

Total ..... \$81.00

The enrollment stands as reported last week, viz. .... \$115.267  
Geo. St. John Leavens, Secretary.

### BADGE OF THE SINGLE TAX PROPAGANDA ASSOCIATION.

The circle symbolizes the unity of the human race, the brotherhood of man, which may prevail upon the earth in time to come; upon it, in raised letters, is "The Single Tax," which, if it encompassed the world, would bring justice to all. Within rises the star of hope. The even distance between the letters signifies the equity of the single tax, and their arrangement shows that the doctrine of the single tax cannot be understood without a little study. The twelve stars between the letters signify that the new civilization which it will bring us will brighten our lives with a pure and steady light from year's end to year's end.

The acting secretary, Miss C. Estella Bachman, of Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, will mail the badge to any address on the receipt of price, and a two cent stamp to cover postage. She will inclose a certificate of membership free, to anyone who wishes to join the association.

Persons buying the badge at the store of Mr. Benjamin Doblin, treasurer, 212 Broadway, New York City, are requested to give their full name and address, and make application for a certificate if they wish to become members.

The badge, solid silver, will be sold for 35 cents; or, with pin, as shown in the cut, for 50 cents. The hanging badges are tied with narrow cardinal ribbon. Cardinal or blood color, typifying the brotherhood of man, has been chosen as the color of the association.

The object of this association is the propagation of the doctrine of the single tax.

The single tax means the abolition of all taxation upon industry, and the products of industry, and the taking, by taxation upon land values irrespective of improvements, of the annual rental value of all those various forms of natural opportunities embraced under the general term Land. To tax labor or its products is to discourage industry. To tax land values to their full amount will render it impossible for any man to exact from others a price for using those bounties of nature in which all living men have an equal right of use. It will compel every individual controlling natural



opportunities to either utilize them by the employment of labor, or abandon them to others. It will thus provide opportunities of work for all men, and secure to each the full reward of his labor; and, as a result, involuntary poverty will be abolished, and the greed, intemperance, and vice which spring from poverty and the dread of poverty will be swept away.

Any person who believes in the doctrine of the single tax may become a member of the Single Tax Propaganda Association by paying five cents a month to the local association and five cents a year to the acting secretary. Where no local association exists individuals will pay ten cents a year to their State secretary and ten cents a year to the acting secretary.

S. M. GAY, General Secretary.

C. ESTELLA BACHMAN, Acting Secretary.

### NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Board of Managers of the Manhattan Single Tax Club held its monthly meeting last Friday evening and prepared its report to the club meeting which takes place Thursday evening, February 4, at the club rooms, No. 73 Lexington avenue.

Delegates from twelve Assembly Districts appeared at the Manhattan Single Tax Club room on Monday evening in response to the call of the managing board for the organization of the central committee of the Democratic Free Trade League of this City. The districts represented were the Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-second, Twenty-third.

The league was organized by the election of the following officers: Jerome O'Neil, chairman; Benjamin Doblin, vice-chairman; E. M. Klein, secretary, and G. W. Everett, treasurer. There was a discussion lasting over an hour as to the best way of doing the work in hand, and finally a unanimous agreement was reached, which was to issue an address and go heartily into the work of enrollment. A meeting of the committee was called for next Monday night, at which it was ordered that the chairmen of the assembly districts appear, so that a permanent Executive Committee could be formed. Until next Monday night, however, a provisional committee of five members will act as the Executive Committee, and carry on the work of the organization until the full Executive Committee is appointed. The reports from the district were very flattering. The delegates say that as soon as an address is issued the work will go ahead with a rush.

FLUSHING.—At the meeting of the Good Citizenship League, about 200 women were in attendance on the 26th to listen to an exposition of the single tax. The lecture was delivered by Louis F. Post, who answered questions which at the close of the lecture were asked by individuals in the audience. The Good Citizenship League is composed wholly of women, and is organized for the purpose of studying social and political questions. The membership is large, and the organization, which commands the highest respect of the community, is in every sense a successful undertaking.

NEW UTRECHT.—This village is to have sewers under the law of 1889. This law provides that the expense shall be levied generally on the whole community; but Assemblyman Charles A. Conrady has introduced an amendment in the Legislature which provides for a separate annual assessment of lands regardless of improvements, and for levying the expense exclusively on lands according to valuation. The Conrady bill is a good one for single tax sympathizers to write to their Assemblymen about.

BINGHAMTON.—John H. Blakeney writes: Last Sunday evening's meeting of our Social Science Club was the largest yet held. Chapters 5 and 6 of "Protection or Free Trade?" were read and discussed.

Some months ago I suggested in THE STANDARD that clubs like ours might be started in every place where there are a few single taxers. One or two earnest men might find half a dozen or more who would meet weekly and engage in reading and discussing Mr. George's works.

I have not yet had opportunity to confer with our friends here in reference to the meeting of Democrats in New York on Friday night to protest against the recent action of the State Committee, but I am sure there will be a general approval of the movement set on foot by that meeting.

### PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA.—George E. Chase writes: The meeting of the Germantown Single Tax Club on January 19 proved to be a very interesting one, nearly all present taking part. Miss Chapman began with an account of her own experience and work in and for the single tax in various places. During her remarks she spoke of the Bourse meeting held on Saturday evening, January 16, in the Academy of Music, which she attended, and at which she heard many indirect and unintended arguments for free trade. Protection was mentioned only once, and even that fell flat. After Miss Chapman's address the conversation and discussion became general, and all present seemed to be much interested. Strangers present asked for some light on certain points, and Miss Chapman's replies seemed to satisfy them entirely.

On January 23 the regular Saturday evening meeting of the Question Club was devoted to the informal consideration of a variety of social and economic subjects in which all present took part.

At the Liberal League on Sunday, January 24, Dr. Doucet attacked the single tax from the standpoint of nationalism, and was assisted by three or four other speakers. Mr. G. F. Stephens made a very witty and forcible argument for the single tax, and Messrs. Butler, Anderson, and Walters ably advocated the taxation of rents, with the evident approval of the audience.

On January 24 at the regular Sunday evening meeting of the Philadelphia Single Tax Society, after the appointment of a committee to take charge of the proposed Home Congress movement, at the suggestion of Mr. Kline, it was decided to read a chapter from Mr. George's works in order to provoke discussion, and Mr. Hetzel urged such a beginning for each meeting. Mr. Anderson then read for ten minutes from the "Reply to the Pope." Mr. Hetzel replied to questions. Mr. Shoemaker spoke on our moral

responsibility, Mr. Gill read an article on social relations, and Mr. Atkinson read "First Principles," and explained the single tax. Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Hetzel then answered questions from the audience.

On Thursday evening, January 28th, our Philadelphia Single Tax Society was addressed by Professor F. H. Giddings, of Bryn Mawr College, Penn. Professor Giddings presented his objections to the single tax from the point of view of one who is heartily in accord with single tax workers in the desire for an equitable distribution of wealth, a stronger fight against the present centralized and plutocratic government, and the transference of the burden of taxation from consumers. The objections to the single tax made by the professor were really no objections at all, and when he investigates fully, he will, no doubt, see this himself. His address was a very intelligent one and he made none of the foolish and absurd objections that most of our opponents do. At the close of his address he announced himself open to answer questions, and a very interesting discussion ensued. Our society room was filled to overflowing by a very appreciative and interested audience. Mr. Stephenson, in a neat little speech of welcome and appreciation, complimented the professor very highly, and hoped we might have more professors like himself to address us.

POTTSTOWN.—George Auchey writes: The club here was formed by A. H. Stephenson, of Philadelphia, three years ago. We have been pushing the cause chiefly in the way of newspaper letters, the two daily papers of this town having allowed us some latitude, but not as much as might be desired. Latterly, however, Mr. Mahlon Taylor, editor of the Daily News, has developed into a strong and enthusiastic single tax man, and has invited us to make free use of the columns of his paper. We are running a series of three-quarter column continued articles, two or three weekly. We had them every day for awhile, but this was too much of a strain on our time.

We have also held at intervals public meetings in a small way. Several prominent business men have assured us of their sympathy with some of our views, but do not consider themselves as yet competent to form an opinion of the single tax as a whole. It is the business man and capitalist that we are especially trying to catch, and the abolition of hard times is the burden of our song.

We are not in a position to judge very accurately of the free trade sentiment—although we know there is some—in this locality, because we are, as it happens, mostly Republicans and connected with the Republican club, and this, of course, prevents us from quizzing the Democrats. We are really Mugwumps, however, and will cheerfully turn into outright Democrats, if allowed by Hill, Gorman, Brice & Co. to do so.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

WOLLASTON HEIGHTS.—Mrs. Eliza Stowe Twitchell writes: There were twenty-five women present at the last meeting of the W. C. T. U., and it is no exaggeration to say that the lesson on economics was listened to throughout with rapt attention, and by a few with enthusiasm. While all seemed interested, yet it was plain that some received it with reservation. The principles set forth were so self-evident that it was a matter of some surprise to see looks of incredulity. But truth must in time find a hearing. There were six ladies present who do not usually attend the meetings of the W. C. T. U., but came because they were interested in their lessons. They say they "would not miss one for anything." They are members of the King's Daughters, and here expressed the wish that I would talk before their meetings. I mention this to encourage some "gentle reader" to try my plan. If I can do it others can, for surely no one would find it harder to break through her reserve. Remember what Aristotle says: "The beginnings are more [than half]." What one needs is courage and determination.

"So nigh is grandeur to our dust,  
So near is God to man;  
When Duty whispers 'Lo, thou must,'  
The youth replies 'I can.'"

The subject of the lesson was "Land," and its primal importance in the production of wealth, furnishing labor, not only with the materials, but also the forces for the production of all wealth. It was then shown how great were the benefits to commerce, and to civilization when Adam Smith taught the world that money, the precious metals, were not the only form of wealth; and next, when it was taught that slaves were not wealth, and lastly, the results of considering land as wealth. Thinking it best not to draw illustrations from too near at home, plenty were found in the different countries of Europe.

My good friend, who always speaks after me, was quite agitated. Said she, too, had read Adam Smith, and knew, of course, that money, and shares, and stocks, and bonds, were not wealth. We didn't need to be told that. But she didn't see what we had to do with Europe. "We are not responsible for their condition. Of course, we know they are poorly fed, but we came to this country long ago, when land was cheap, and 'the breaking waves dashed high on a stern and rock-bound coast.'" Her voice trembled, and she seemed quite overcome at the remembrance of that stormy time. By intuition she already sees the outlines of the cat, and evidently does not like her looks. It would take a man's slow reason a year to grasp what she has done in two short lessons. I always allow her the last word, to give her the pleasure of thinking she has won the case—another of woman's interesting peculiarities. She always comes to the meetings with her carriage and coachman, and pays liberally for the cause of temperance.

PITTSFIELD.—C. H. Waugh writes: I seem to be the only single tax man in this city of over 17,000 population. I have had many conversations with persons on the cars, at hotels and many other places. I have furnished ministers of the gospel and professional men with tracts and copies of THE STANDARD, but have never known of a single instance where any good has come from it. Intelligent men have often told me that Henry George and the single tax they cared nothing about. The almighty dollar is about all people care about now-a-days. To be sure the churches are doing a good work in

their way, but when and where has the church ever led the way in great reforms?

NEW BEDFORD.—Byron Winchester writes: The Daily Mercury publishes a personal about Henry George, in which, after stating that Mr. George is now preparing a treatise on political economy, the writer, Alfred Balch, of New York, says:

When his book will be ready I do not know. After he has written it he will revise it at least twice, for Mr. George puts no hurried work before his many readers. But when it comes out it will be warmly welcomed by those who agree with Mr. George as another message from their prophet, and by those who disagree with him as the utterances of a clever man, whose writings are always a delight from their style.

The honesty and candor of Alderman S. O. Brownell, chairman of the Public Parks Committee, in giving the following reason in the report of his committee for establishing public parks, is quite refreshing. In conclusion he says:

The future needs of the city would be provided for and the benefited population will gladly pay their portions in any future years as the obligations become due. Besides the advantages of park privileges we shall reap the benefit of a gradual increased valuation, which is an advantage to the city for taxation and an individual benefit to the owners of a large area of real estate.

Compulsion is now being used to oblige the cotton weavers here to reduce their wages, by instructing Russian Jews in the art.

#### VIRGINIA.

DANVILLE.—Eugene Withers writes: Free trade sentiment is increasing in my town, and will continue to do so, I think. I think free trade is growing all through this section.

#### MICHIGAN.

ADRIAN.—A. D. Rian writes: The announcement of the publication of a local single tax paper, with Mayor Hoch and J. W. Helme, Jr., in charge, has suddenly brought the question into prominence. For the first time since the single tax was brought to public notice here, has it aroused adverse criticism from any of our newspapers. Until now they have treated the subject as fair-minded persons would any great question they have not investigated. But to-day the Weekly Press, the Democratic organ, comes down on the theory with "both feet," assuring us at least solid opposition, the next best thing to support.

The Press has a habit of throwing its full weight upon every object that comes in sight, and conducting an investigation of its catch afterward. Sometimes it finds it has captured a reptile, but oftener that it has stirred up a hornet's nest, and that speedy retreat is the only salvation. In this instance it has done the latter and will find itself in pretty warm quarters. A retreat to the single tax library, and a careful perusal of the single tax platform may relieve its dilemma.

#### OHIO.

DAYTON.—W. W. Kile writes: Here is an illustration of the good results sure to follow, sooner or later, from persistent work in single tax clubs. The Ohio Clothing Cutters' Association held its fifth semi-annual meeting in Cleveland on the 25th and 26th of January. J. P. Foote, of Dayton, is president of the association and was largely responsible for the questions discussed at the meeting. One of them was: "What effect does national legislation have on our business?"

Of course, this opened up the tariff question, and it was demonstrated that a tax on imported wool and cloth compels the tailors to use cheaper grades of cloths and to charge higher prices, both of which diminishes the amount of business possible to be done. Mr. Foote has been prominent in labor organizations in Dayton for eight or ten years. He was formerly a protectionist, but has gradually progressed, until he is now a free trader without limit or reserve.

#### ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Warren Worth Bailey writes: Professor Hamlin Garland has been in the city for a week past. He took an active part in the conference between the various political reform bodies that are seeking to form a new party, and was a member of the committee that drew up the platform or basis of agreement. His influence seems to have been quite definitely felt, the land plank being rather more explicit than any declaration hitherto made by these elements. Among the conferees were Miss Francis A. Willard, Ignatius Donnelly, General J. B. Weaver, and Chairman Dickie, of the Prohibition National Committee; and it was agreed to unite the Greenbackers, Prohibitionists, Alliance, and Labor parties upon the issues of land, transportation, money, and the saloon.

Professor Garland is enthusiastic in his championship of the third party movement. He regards it as the real hope of the reform for which we stand, and in his address before our club Thursday evening, he strenuously upheld this view, declaring that all the leaders of the farmers' movement are even now single taxers, and the whole tendency of the new political force is in our direction.

His address was devoted entirely to the farmers' movement. He told of his personal observation and experience among the Alliance people, describing their "round-ups," their tremendous earnestness, their anxiety to learn, their stern resolve to find out what is the matter, and then apply the proper remedy. In the course of his remarks the professor referred to "Our Jerry." The name was greeted with a hearty round of applause.

"Jerry is true gold," said the speaker. "Gold all the way through. He is a great man, and the people who have been sneering at him are going to find it out. He is a buzz saw, and some of the gentlemen in Congress have already learned that it is not safe to monkey with him. You want to keep your eyes on Jerry. He's doing more to advance the single tax than all the rest of us put together. And he is always talking the single tax. He can't help it. It has infected him clear through, and whether on the stump, the rostrum, the floor of the House, or in the committee room, it breaks out, and what he says is printed. It goes into all the papers, and the farmers read it all over the land in their Alliance organs, of which there are nearly eight hundred. And then there is General Weaver. He is as clean-cut a single tax man as we've got. He is really a brilliant addition to our forces. I spent a week with him out in Iowa, and he is the true

blue. There is a regular host of single taxers in his office. His leading editorial writer is a straight single taxer, and while I was there I enjoyed a continual love feast. Mrs. Leaso and Mrs. Diggs are also earnest single taxers, and nearly all the leaders are in full sympathy. I was prejudiced against the Alliance," he continued, "before I went out to study it. Not that I questioned the honesty of its motives, or the general intelligence and patriotism of its adherents. But I regarded its methods as doubtful, and its aims as foolish, if not worse. When I got among the farmers, however, and really got an understanding of their position, I changed my mind. I found they were not so far wrong after all. They are not pig-headed and reactionary. On the contrary, they are alive to new ideas and willing to be set right if it can be shown that they are wrong. They eagerly heard me in advocacy of the single tax. Their meetings were thrown open to me everywhere. They considered the question intelligently, and discussed it with fairness. So I have cut loose from the old moorings and have thrown myself heart and soul into the farmers' movement. I think Single Taxers have been too much Democrats and not enough for the single tax. I can see no hope for the advance of our cause through a party dominated by Hill, Gorman, Brice and their like. But there is a glowing hope in the other direction. The revolution is upon us. The farmers are awake and in dead earnest. They are armed against the three great fundamental monopolies—the monopoly of land, the monopoly of transportation, and the monopoly of money. The free silver notion is practically dead. Discussion killed it. But the farmers are after the monopolists and will never rest till they have been run down. It is our duty to go with them and lead them in the right way. They are ripe for the single tax and we can make their party our party if we will but throw our energies in the right direction."

The audience that listened to Mr. Garland was large, and it gave him the closest attention. His allusions to Jerry Simpson were received with special marks of satisfaction, and his description of the farmers as he had seen them during his recent tour, threw new light upon the cause he has embraced with so much fervor. But it was apparent that the audience was not carried away with the notion of leaving the Democrats for the third party—at least, just now. And Mr. Marshall Beck, in a complimentary and graceful little speech, neatly voiced the prevailing sentiment when he said we were not in the Democratic party on account of the party, but for the purpose of assisting in the removal of the chief obstacle in the way of progress—the odious tariff. Jonathan B. Taylor said he thought that instead of trying to get the control and leadership of the third party we should try to capture the Democratic party. "It is bigger," he said, "it is better organized, and its tendency is in our direction. The thing for us to do is to make ourselves felt in its councils. We can do that simply by getting out and participating in the local political work that hitherto we have left to those who have no interest in reform." Mr. George V. Wells also spoke briefly, and in a similar strain.

The following resolution, introduced by Mr. J. T. Ripley, was unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, has proposed that, whenever any general appropriation bill is under consideration in the House of Representatives, it shall be in order to move as an amendment any proposition for reducing taxation or providing out of what fund such appropriation shall be paid, to the end that the public demand for revenue reform may not be thwarted in the Senate by suppressing in committee revenue legislation proposed by the House; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Congressmen known to favor the single tax on land values as a method of raising national revenue be respectfully asked to support the proposition of the member from Kentucky and to secure an addition to the amendment providing that the method of raising money for appropriations shall be specified, in order that some part of the national revenue shall be raised by direct taxation.

The Chicago Voice, devoted to the single tax, will make its appearance in about two weeks.

Home Bailey announces that a single tax club will be organized at Bloomington in a few days with a membership of a dozen or more. What is the matter with Decatur, Springfield, Jacksonville, Rockford, and the other towns of Illinois? Can't they wake up?

The next meeting will be addressed by John Gibbons, LL.D., editor of the Law Journal. His subject will be "The Redemption of Farm Mortgages by the Government." The following Thursday night the speaker will be Mr. Josiah Edson, who will deal with the ethical phase of the single tax question.

#### ILLINOIS.

**ELGIN.**—Percy Roberts writes: The question of taxation is arousing a great amount of discussion in this town. On every hand we hear complaints of unequal assessments and high tax rates.

The Elgin National Watch Factory is one of the largest, if not the largest, establishments of the kind in the country. The employees have organized a union of some 900 or 1,000 members, known as the "Watch-makers' Union." Sometime before the first of the year a cut was made in the jewel room. The men objected to the cut, and the matter was settled by the company making some concessions. The men were very much elated over their success, but it now appears that the company has invented and patented a machine whereby the work which previously required the services of a \$3 a day jewel-setter can be done better by a \$6 a week girl, and it will not be long before the jewel-setters will have to look elsewhere for employment.

#### MINNESOTA.

**ST. ANTHONY PARK.**—C. J. Buell writes: At the last meeting of the Minnesota District Knights of Labor, H. B. Martin, president Minneapolis Single Tax League, was elected district master workman, and the following resolution was made the principal plank of the platform:

*Whereas*, All men have an inalienable inheritance and right to a share for use of the earth, be it therefore

*Resolved*, 1st, That we request of the Legislature of Minnesota the passage of laws that will increase the burden of taxation on all lands held out of use by speculators, and a corresponding decrease of the burden of taxes on all improvements on land and products of labor, in order, by this means, to discourage the holding of land out of use and make it easier for those who wish to use land to get access to it. By this means we shall decrease the number of unemployed workmen, and since it is the unemployed who keep down the wages of the employed, we would thus enable all workmen to secure such increase of wages as would enable them to command their full earnings.

This speaks for itself.

O. T. Erickson, Minnesota's member of the Single Tax League of the United States, was recently re-elected for the second time president of the

Minneapolis Trades and Labor Assembly, and that in spite of Mr. Erickson's protests that he did not want the office. The leading labor men of the State are all single taxers.

Virgil O. Hunt died in Minneapolis, January 26, 1892, aged 74 years. Mr. Hunt always took a lively interest in political and financial matters, and was one of the organizers of the Greenback party in Iowa. Up to 1870, however, he was a believer in Republican principles. Of late years he has been studying the labor problems, and has advocated the single tax theory. He leaves a wife and two sons, one of whom, C. N. Hunt, is a well known lawyer and a member of the Minneapolis Single Tax League.

The last meeting of our league proved an exceedingly interesting one. The hall was well filled, and the discussion continued until eleven o'clock. Lawyer John H. Nickell read an able paper on the "Silver Question," which contained much information, and forcibly brought out the evils of a currency constantly increasing in value, as has been the case with our gold standard currency since 1873. The league became so much interested in the discussion that they voted to have a paper by Mr. Martin in two weeks on the question of "Paper Money," at which time Mr. Nickell and others will be present and take part in the discussion. Our next paper will be by Wilbur F. Tupper, a leading Prohibitionist lawyer, on "Individualism vs. Nationalism," and in three weeks, February 16, we are to have another treat, having found a protectionist who will come forward to defend that peculiar superstition. There is some talk of running O. T. Erickson for Congress. He would make a good member, and could easily be elected if the Democrats would give him the nomination. That is where the rub comes in.

#### MISSOURI.

**ST. LOUIS.**—L. P. Custer writes: The forthcoming conference of farmers' and laborers' organizations in this city on the 23d of February promises to be largely attended, and offers a field for propaganda work that will be taken advantage of by our people. Already a committee of fifteen has been appointed, which includes some of the most prominent men of the city, who will endeavor to secure a hearing before the conference, and will prepare matter for distribution among the delegates. Jerry Simpson wrote to Martin Williams that it is probable that he will be unable to be present at the conference, which shuts us out of an expected treat in the way of an address from him during his sojourn among us. The new syndicate paper that is being published in this city is meeting with eminent success. Already twenty-five or more are being furnished to as many different places throughout the country, and a great many more are being negotiated for. There is no doubt of its splendid character for propaganda work. Percy Pepon is the controlling spirit of the undertaking, and deserves unstinted thanks for his enterprise.

I learn that a Mr. Layman, general attorney of the Wabash system, is preparing a paper against the single tax. It has been suggested that a "spread" be arranged at the Southern, our largest and finest hotel, and that the gentleman be invited to make his attack on that occasion. We are trying to get Edward Osgood Brown to come down from Chicago to help us do him up. If this programme is adopted it will be an eventful occasion.

#### IOWA.

**BURLINGTON.**—F. S. Churchill writes: Our club meets regularly every alternate Saturday evening at the residence of Mr. Richard Spencer, and although our membership does not increase we can see a great change in the sentiment of our citizens, for our views do not meet with the opposition that greeted them a few years ago. One of the members of the club, who is known by every one to be a single tax man, was last week elected president of the Board of Trade. Our business men at least are no longer afraid of the single tax. Some weeks since our club ordered 100 copies of Percy Pepon's paper, which proved to be so ably edited and made such a fine appearance that a second lot was ordered. At our last regular meeting it was decided to order two more editions, and we hope to be able to continue the paper regularly, for we recognize it as a cheap and effective means of propaganda.

Governor Boies, in his inaugural, calls the attention of the Legislature to our clumsy methods of taxation. He says, among other things:

That some changes in our present methods of levying and collecting the taxes of the State should be adopted seems apparent.

He who is capable of devising a system by which the expenses of government shall be limited to its reasonable necessities and its burdens distributed so that they shall be fairly and justly apportioned among all our people, will prove a benefactor of his race and deserve the gratitude of all.

I respectfully commend the writings of Henry George to the thoughtful consideration of our worthy Governor.

#### KANSAS.

**HUTCHINSON.**—E. C. Clark writes that he has met the Alliance people at Langdon in response to their second call for a single tax lecture. "We had," he says, "a full house of adult persons of both sexes, who had most of them been discussing the single tax from their standpoint, and were generally impressed that it would put the chief burden of taxation on farm property. After going over the main features of the system, I drew on the blackboard a large body of land, cut up in sections, abutting on a commercial centre, and running back to the margin of cultivation in the best land for which there was no competition, and explained the effect of a tax on land values of commercial centres and town property, of mining lands, and of preferable agricultural lands. The time occupied was about two hours, after which I asked for questions on any point not made clear, and but one was asked, which was this: 'Suppose a man had just bought a section and had paid \$2,000 for it; when this system took effect how would he get his \$2,000 back?' 'I told him about buying a house once for \$200, and a day or two afterwards finding where I could have bought as good an one for \$150, and that the next week my father died, leaving me a still better one for nothing. He saw that his supposed evil was not of the new system, but of the old. After this I called for a showing of hands of those who had any objections to the

single tax as explained, and got none. Everyone was exceedingly well satisfied with the single tax, and several came forward and stated that their objections had been removed and that they would welcome the single tax. There are several strong agitators here who will keep up the agitation, and at a later day I hope to get a good club there."

#### SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Division A—Prof. James Atkins, Emory and Henry College, Emory, Va., is favorable to platform of the New York Tax Reform Association, and should be urged to study the single tax.

Division B—C. M. Maxson, Belmont, N. Y., editor of the Alliance Leader, is inclined favorably to the single tax. Write him, explaining briefly why he should investigate the subject.

Division C—Miss H. Augusta Howard, Columbus, Ga., is so strongly interested in the emancipation of women that she is unwilling to further any reforms until that be accomplished. She fears that any improvement in our school conditions would only help men in keeping from women their equal rights as citizens, etc. She should be shown that the best thing that can be done for women is to relieve them from the unnecessary burdens which unjust fundamental laws impose, which deprive them also of liberty of action.

Division D—Edward T. Devine, A. M., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, is the lecturer on economics for the Society for Extension of University Teaching in Pennsylvania; admires Henry George for the impetus he has given to the study of economics, but is not a single taxer; recently advocated a special rate of taxation on unused lands, so as to prevent speculation and withholding from use.

Division E—D. M. Thomas, Columbia, Pa., secretary of National Association of Stove Manufacturers, desires to investigate single tax. Write him clearly but concisely.

Division G—Professor F. W. Blackmar, State University, Lawrence, Kansas, is quoted as having recently, at a lecture in Kansas City, classed the teachings of George with those of the Socialists. He is further reported to have said: "Give men political rights and tell them they are born free and equal, and the next step is that they want to be equal in economics. This is impossible. Men are not born equal when it comes to economics. They are equal before the law, and between the law and economics is but a step; therefore, they ask, 'why are we not equal in economics?'"

Divisions H and N—Gov. Boies, of Iowa, address at Des Moines. In his inaugural address, January 20, gave several openings for a single tax argument, and should be congratulated on the clearness of his views. Among other things he said: "There are certain natural rights which every man possesses, and certain obligations which he, as a member of society, owes to the public.

"Every right which a corporation possesses is the voluntary gift of the State. Every power it can use, for good or for evil, is derived directly from the people through the law-making power of the commonwealth under whose statutes it is organized."

Divisions F and J—Bishop Newman, of Omaha, Neb., the recognized leader of the Methodist Church in the West, suggests, in order to prevent the terrible scramble for homestead lands which attended the opening of Oklahoma, that the title to lands in the Cherokee strip should be decided by a lottery. In case the number of people in attendance at the drawing should exceed the number of pieces of land and lots to be distributed, then a corresponding number of blank tickets would be put in. The bishop ought to hear of a better way of avoiding such difficulties.

Division I—George B. Cooper, Fredonia, Osage County, Mo., delegate to Farmers' Congress at Sedalia, Mo., last November. Explain the single tax with special regard to the benefits accruing to farmers.

Division M—Dean Keifer, of Colorado Springs, Col., in a recent lecture declared himself a "Socialist," because he is convinced of the injustice of the present system under which the owner of the land absorbs the unearned increment. He said: "Suppose Mr. Smith buys a farm out in the suburbs for \$10,000, and by the growth of the city around his farm it comes to be worth \$100,000, he pockets \$90,000, which every person living about there helped to make."

Division L—W. W. Gamble, Stewart, Minn., is a busy farmer who writes on economic subjects for Farm, Stock and Home, of Minneapolis. He seems to consider reforms in money and railways the most essential ones and should be made to see that the single tax is the only adequate measure.

Division K—President Burrows, Alcorn University, Rodney, Miss., has already had his attention called to the single tax by this corps. Show him particularly how the negroes would be benefited. This is a college for colored people.

Divisions O and P—The Sentinel, Windsor, Ont., Canada, a paper recently started, will probably be glad to publish clear statements of what we want.

Members will please send me all the suitable targets they hear of. Please also send me replies or extracts from letters received from targets when particularly hopeful or the reverse, as I do not wish to waste effort in repeating their names needlessly.

1674 Broadway, New York. MARIAN DANA MACDANIEL, Secretary.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

—E. J. Shriver writes from New York: Mr. Chancellor, in his letter that is published in your issue of January 27, has started to wander in the logical labyrinth where some of our own people have got lost, because he misses the fundamental point that the single tax is not a means to collect people's just dues for them and make an equitable distribution of the proceeds of labor, but to remove the artificial obstacles which prevent men from working out their own salvation, each for himself. The protection afforded to property by society is an artificial one, and were it not extended to landholding, labor seeking employment could take possession of the opportunities needed at will. The single tax will equally throw them open with-

out weakening the police power that prevents violence. Socialism would deny all access except by permission of the State, substituting only communal landlordism for individual landowners. We need hardly discuss the spectre of the poor man who is occupying but not using all the valuable land, which Mr. Chancellor revamps; but we may ask him, since he admits that there is much good land that ought to be used—and is not—whether the bringing of this land into use would not increase production? And if the poor are driven off the good land by the single tax, how will they be loaded with taxation that falls only on the rental value of such land?

—R. P. Abbey writes from Grand Junction: I don't know what we have done that you should inflict upon us a sample copy occasionally of your single tax STANDARD, for we certainly have no use for it. We believe the idea of single tax is a fraud and humbug, and the man that advocates it also; a shyster gang, we believe, from beginning to end. I was born a Republican, rocked in a Republican cradle, have voted for every candidate for President on the Republican ticket, expect to keep right on doing so as long as life lasts, served four years in the Union army, and expect to always vote just as I shot—against rebels and Democrats.

—Edward N. Vallandigham, of New York writes: Here is a suggestion for propaganda work. If it has not been tried it is worth trying. Let every single tax club in the United States appoint from its best indoctrinated members a strong committee whose business it shall be to correct by letters to editors every false or inexact statement made in the press touching the single tax movement or the political economy upon which it is founded. Appeal should be made through THE STANDARD by such methods of communication as the clubs possess, urging all single taxers to send to the nearest club marked copies of newspapers containing such false or inexact statements as I have indicated. Editors will not refuse to publish brief and pointed letters couched in courteous language, and if the editor who has erred declines a communication, his rival will be glad to print it.

#### PERSONAL.

The ancestors of Edward Osgood Brown came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony very early. In almost every line his descent is traced to immigrants of an earlier period than 1650, nearly every one of whom settled in Essex County, Massachusetts, and include in their posterities such families as the Choates, the Popes, the Putnams, and the Daltons. His father's ancestors



lived in Ipswich until his grandfather moved to Salem, after becoming a sea captain. He is from a race of sailors. His father was a classmate and intimate friend of Captain John Codman, at Amherst, and left at the same time that Captain Codman did to go to sea; and his own first meeting with his father's friend was at the free trade conference at Chicago, when Mr. Brown took occasion to declare publicly his adhesion to the single tax faith.

Educated in the public schools at Salem, Mass., and at Brown University, in Providence,

where he was graduated in the class of 1867, Mr. Brown taught school for a time in Southborough, Mass., and then began to study law in Salem. He afterward went to the Harvard Law School, where he received first prize in 1869; but it was while occupying the position of Assistant Clerk of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, a place he took during 1869 and continued to hold until admitted to the bar a year later, that he finished his legal studies. After practicing law in Rhode Island in partnership with Charles E. Gorman, lately announced in THE STANDARD as a single taxer, until the spring of 1872, he with his former classmate and intimate friend, Orville Peckham, went to Chicago, where the existing firm of Peckham & Brown was formed.

Mr. Brown is at present one of the vice-presidents and directors of the Iroquois Club—the principal Democratic organization in Chicago, a member of several other clubs in the city, and one of the solicitors of the First National Bank of Chicago. He married Helen Gertrude Eagle in 1884, and has five children, three boys and two girls. He has always taken an interest in politics, his natural inclination and constitution of mind making him a radical Democrat. He has little tolerance, however, for compromising or temporizing political policies.

In 1880, when Hancock was running for the Presidency, Mr. Brown spoke for the Democratic ticket, and instead of evading met the tariff question at every opportunity, showing to the wage workers that protection did not increase their wages. At that time he had not heard of "Progress and Poverty," but having investigated sufficiently to become convinced that what regulates wages is the ease with which the wage worker gets to natural opportunities, he made a vigorous attack upon the land policy of the Republican party in the matter of railroad grants, etc., the burden of all his speeches. It never occurred to him, however, that private property in land was wrong or even inexpedient, and being a firm believer in the Malthusian theory, his idea was that by neglecting to adopt free trade in this country we were

But Christ was murdered, and the single tax, the next blessing, is also kept out of the way. Get some of our county figures for comparison, to show how much better we would be under the condition advocated by THE STANDARD. The seed sown is bringing forth fruit that you do not see. I know of more than one assessor working the idea as far as the present law and opposition will allow, and the good time will yet come.

**"THE GREATEST IS CHARITY."**

Emily Browne Powell in the California Illustrated Magazine.

Three women stood together as the chime  
Of distant bells rang in the Christmas time.  
And lo! a vision, radiant and fair,  
A heavenly presence shone before them there!  
The dear Lord stood revealed; He asked each  
one:

"In this bright year for Me what hast thou  
done!"

The first said: "Lord, Thy voice seemed calling  
me

To distant lands, Thy messenger to be.  
To carry on Thy work I have not failed;  
In danger often, yet I have not quailed.  
Among the heathen I have cast my lot  
To teach the faith to those who know Thee not."

The second said: "Lord, I have tried to be  
A faithful steward. With full hands and free  
I've given of my wealth to feed the poor;  
Oft I've brought hope to those who hoped no  
more,

Of pain and suffering I have eased the smart,  
And taught to thank Thee many a grateful  
heart."

The third stood humbly there with downcast  
eyes,

"I have no wealth to give; I am not wise.  
Dear Lord, 'tis little I have done for Thee;  
But I have walked with all in charity.  
At others' sins, I, conscious of my own,  
Point no accusing finger, cast no stone."

The Master smiled down on the drooping head,  
"Who'er loves mine loves also Me," he said.  
"Who e'er shows mercy shows it unto Me;  
She hath all graces who hath charity."

**UNEARNED INCREMENT.**

Old lady: "Doctor, do you think there is any-  
thing the matter with my lungs?" Physician  
(after a careful examination): "I find, madam,  
that your lungs are in a normal condition." Old  
lady (with a sigh of resignation): "And about  
how long can I expect to live with them in that  
condition?"—The Presbyterian.

Things one would rather have left unsaid: A  
lady thanked a gentleman for a very compliment-  
ary remark he had made in a newspaper article  
about her ability as a writer. "Oh," he replied,  
"that was all a joke. I never dreamed the editor  
would print it."—Independent.

Hanks: "How did Closest manage to get  
his men to withdraw from the Knights of  
Labor?" Banks: "He quoted Scripture to show  
that members of that organization could not go  
to heaven." Hanks: "What was his text?"  
Banks: "'And there shall be no night there.'"  
—New York Herald.

Text for Tariff Reform Democrats: "Party  
honesty is party duty; and party courage is party  
expediency."—Grover Cleveland.

"Have you fixed up my will?" said the sick  
man to Lawyer Quillins. "Yes." "Everything  
as tight as you can make it?" "Entirely so."  
"Well, now, I want to ask you something, not  
professionally, but as a plain everyday man.  
Who do you honestly think stands the best show  
for getting the property?"—Judge.

We have been asked if in the water which flows  
in Wall street, there are any fish? There are—  
suckers, chiefly.—New York Continent.

Jack Rounder: "Isn't Miss Belle a beauty?"  
Miss A.: "Yes. But, you know, beauty is only  
skin deep." Jack Rounder: "Well, I'm no can-  
nibal. That's deep enough for me."—Life.

One of the professors of the University of  
Texas was engaged in explaining the Darwinian  
theory to his class, when he observed that they  
were not paying proper attention. "Gentlemen,"  
said the professor, "when I am endeavoring to  
explain to you the peculiarities of the monkey I  
wish you would look at me."—Texas Siftings.

Consider the man who is always punctual—how  
much time he wastes waiting for other people.—  
Vermont Watchman.

Nupop: "Maria, I believe that baby knows  
now what it took Sir Isaac Newton a life of  
thought to find out." Mrs. Nupop: "How ab-  
urd! What do you mean?" Nupop: "Just  
notice how he tilts that bottle to gravitate the  
milk his way."—Puck.

"It's a blessed good thing," said Mawson, as he

gazed on the ocean; "It's a blessed good thing the  
ocean's bottom is solid." "Why?" "Think of  
what a geyser there'd be on the other side of the  
earth if it leaked."—New York Sun.

"Brownstone has cured his wife of everlasting  
talking." "How, for goodness sake?" "He told  
her that she looked prettier with her mouth closed,  
and now she can hardly be induced to utter a syl-  
lable."—Stilldigg Gazette.

"You say your present boss treats you better  
than Mr. Smith did?" "Yis, sorr, and oftener."  
—Epoch.

His Aunt: "I don't see, Jack, what you like so  
much about that girl." Jack: "My arm, auntie."  
—Brooklyn Life.

No, my son, it is not always polite to tell a man  
what you think of him. It is safer to tell it to some-  
body else, and it is just as effective in most in-  
stances.—Boston Transcript.

**A STORY OF DICKENS.**

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Howard Paul tells an amusing story of Dickens,  
with whom he was on intimate terms. In the  
days when he and his wife were giving their en-  
tertainments, Mr. Paul had as manager a man  
named Dolbey, whose lack of business ability was  
as marked as was his enormous appetite. Mr.  
Paul struggled along as best he could with his  
manager, but he was vastly relieved when Dick-  
ens chose Dolbey to manage his readings on his  
second visit to the United States.

When Dickens returned to London from his  
American tour, Mr. Paul asked him how he liked  
Dolbey's managerial services.

"He is a treasure, a perfect treasure!" replied  
the great novelist, enthusiastically.

Mr. Paul was almost taken off his feet with as-  
tonishment.

"Wha-a-what!" he managed to gasp. "A  
treasure? With all due respect to your judgment,  
Mr. Dickens, I never found him anything else but  
a nuisance."

"Ah, but my dear fellow, there is a difference,"  
replied Dickens. "You engaged him for his  
head, whereas I engaged him for his stomach.  
Why, man, he was invaluable. Those hospitable  
Americans were forever asking me to eat or  
drink with them. All I would have to do would  
be to make some excuse and follow it up with,  
'But here's Dolbey, my manager, who I am sure  
will be delighted.' Why, Dolbey's cast iron stom-  
ach and colossal capacity saved my life. I've  
come back strong as an ox, and Dolbey's a wreck  
—a total wreck. I wouldn't have been without  
him for a thousand pounds."

**THE OX AND THE OWL.**

Toronto Grip.

Here's a little fable by our own Aesop: "The  
Ox asked permission to appear before the Owl  
Association to make a statement of what was  
known as the Anti-Poverty Theory. Permission  
being granted, Bos duly attended, and made a  
speech to this effect: 'That it was not in accord-  
ance with justice or expediency that the Dog  
should be permitted to continue monopolizing the  
manger, and thus keeping the oxen from eating  
the hay which he was not himself eating; or only  
granting that use on payment to him of a heavy  
rental.' 'Now,' said the Ox, in concluding his  
address: 'Our society proposes this remedy:  
that as hay was never made for such a use as  
the Dog is putting it to, his monopoly of it should  
be destroyed. For this purpose the rental value  
of it should be taxed into the public till. It  
would then do him no good to hold it as he is  
doing merely for purposes of exploiting his fellow  
citizens, for the rent we pay him he would have  
to pay to the community. I hope I make myself  
clear?' 'Perfectly clear,' said the Owls, 'we  
quite grasp your meaning. We have read your  
theory up thoroughly, so that we understand it  
perfectly. While thanking you for your address,  
we would point out that there are certain practi-  
cal difficulties in the way of your proposed  
remedy. It will suffice to mention one. Granted  
that hay was not meant to be owned and con-  
trolled by Dogs for purposes of boodle, still you  
see it is so owned. The thing should never have  
been begun, but it has been begun, and we must  
just let it go on. The Dogs have vested interests  
which we can't touch without being guilty of con-  
fiscation of rightful property. The case is hope-  
less. Good day.'"

**TASTE IN NOTE PAPER.**

Harper's Bazar.

If there is any one thing in the world that may  
be said to denote the breeding of a person, it is  
in the taste displayed in the use of note paper.  
Fashions change but slightly in that line, and  
artistic simplicity is the form to be sought after.  
There is nothing so offensive as eccentricity in  
styles of paper, for it is one of the little things  
that seem so trivial and count for so much in the  
eyes of the world. The height of bad form is in  
the use of anything startling or pronounced.  
Paper that rivals the sunset in gorgeousness of  
hue, odd-shaped sheets and envelopes, or gilt-  
edged paper, stamp the user at once as one who  
is not familiar with the precepts of fashion. And  
not fashion alone, by any means; it is refinement  
that is shown in the use of proper stationery, and  
refinement and fashion may not always mean the  
same. Never use a paper that is decorated with  
flowers in one corner, the leaves of which wander  
all over the sheet. Avoid anything in that way.  
A landscape resembling a Christmas card or  
fancy figures for headings are not in their proper  
places on note paper. There is nothing artistic  
in such forms, nothing refined, simply a display  
of bad taste and ill-breeding that is shocking to  
the person well informed on such matters.

**IS LIFE A FAILURE?**

If you are not in good health the answer is yes.  
Let us tell you how thousands have regained lost  
health; and what thousands have done you can  
do. Your constitution is not strong; your sys-  
tem, unable to resist disease, cries for help. Con-  
fidence in long tried medicines is destroyed and  
courage forsakes you. Then, dear friend, deem  
this appeal merciful and heed it, for it has brought  
to thousands like yourself the priceless boon of  
health when hope itself was almost hopeless.  
Send to your nearest druggist for a bottle of the  
great Food Medicine, SCOTT'S EMULSION, which is  
a preparation of emulsified pure Norwegian Cod  
Liver Oil, combined with the hypophosphites of  
Lime and Soda. But be sure you get the genuine  
Emulsion, prepared only by Scott & Bowne,  
Manufacturing Chemists, of New York, as its  
popularity has induced many cheap and worth-  
less substitutes to be offered solely because of the  
large profits they afford. Then use this great  
medicine faithfully, persistently, patiently, until  
you can see that it has taken hold of the wasting  
tissues of your body, relaxed your cough and  
stayed the ravages of incipient Consumption or  
fortified your system against the misery and ex-  
haustion of Anemia. And then keep on the right  
track, continuing to use this great food remedy  
until the new man, the new woman, the new  
child, all bless the day when first they heard of it.  
—Adv.

**EVERYTHING IN CUBA IS TAXED.**

Cincinnati Commercial.

Everything is taxed in Cuba. Even the hotel  
registers. Every night a revenue officer calls at  
the hotel and collects five cents from the proprie-  
tor for every name registered during the day. It  
takes two revenue officers to do it—one to sell the  
revenue stamps, the other to collect the money.

Every workman in Cuba has to be registered at  
the Captain-General's Office before he can go to  
work. It costs 40 cents for an ordinary work-  
man's certificate of registration. If he is a clerk  
getting \$100 per month, it costs about \$1; if he is  
a cashier in a bank, receiving \$10,000 (paper  
money) a year, it will cost him \$27 (paper money)  
to register.

**TRUMBULL'S PROSE POEM.**

M. M. Trumbull in Open Court.

What is a prose poem? Is it an exciting story  
born of the imagination, stirring the pulses like a  
drink of wine, and teaching by its moral; or is it  
a story real and true, which by its pathos and its  
fascination seems like some wonderful creation  
of the brain? I know what a verse poem is; for  
instance, this:

"When can their glory fade?  
O the wild charge they made!  
All the world wondered.  
Honor the charge they made!  
Honor the Light Brigade!  
Noble six hundred!"

There is a stirring sound in that, like the bugle  
stimulus itself, and I know that it is poetry; but  
what is this? A story told by one of the "noble six  
hundred." Is this a poem too? First, let me

preface it with a prose introduction, a commonplace police report which I find in a London paper: James Kennedy, a tall, white-haired old man of seventy-four, had some drink given to him on Sunday because he was one of the "six hundred," who charged the Russians at Balaklava. He became so noisy as the drink took effect on him, that he was taken into custody. When arraigned before the magistrate on Monday morning to answer for his crime, he made an excuse which appears to me like poetry; and I have thrown it into blank verse, preserving the words of the prisoner as he spoke them:

"I am getting very old sir; nearly seventy-four, I was in the charge at Balaklava; and if I said what I should not have said, I am sorry. Sir, I am destitute; and for several nights, I walked the streets in the cold. I had nothing to eat, And when somebody gave me drink, it came over me.

I was in the Seventeenth Lancers in the charge at Balaklava.

I will go into the workhouse if you will not punish me.

I am getting too old for this world altogether."

I think the speech of that old soldier is a prose poem which might fittingly go along with Tennyson's own "Charge." The London paper from which I copy heads its account ironically thus: "When can their glory fade?" To that I answer: It has faded. It is a sad story.

#### HIGH LIVING.

New York Letter.

From public to what are called "private" dinners is but a step—but what are private dinners? Certainly they are not those given by the Astors, Vanderbilts—including with the Vanderbilts what is railway parlance would be called "collaterals," such as the Shepards, Sloanes, McTwombles, Webbs and so on—the Roberts, Stevens and the rest. These are anything but "private." They are widely advertised weeks beforehand. When they occur the names of the guests are given and the dresses worn by the women are minutely described, sometimes with the cost of the bill added, and possibly a gratuitous advertisement of the dressmaker. Almost always, too, there is another advertisement of the caterer who furnishes the dinner. What? We hear a great deal of the distinguished chefs, imported at great expense, expressly for these great houses; but when a dinner is given in one of them all the food comes from Delmonico, Sherry, Fland, Purcell, Clark or some other professional caterer. And it is the same old dinner sent around in tin cans, buckets and baskets, and put on the table in sloppy, sodden, lukewarm condition. But that makes no difference to the givers of the so called "dinners," or to their guests. Very few of these pretentious people, who are forever prating about "high living," know what even good living is. They dine on the menu, not the meal; on the printed names of the dishes, not on the actual dishes. Not long ago, Mrs. Paran Stevens, the real leader in the smart set in which Mrs. Astor is nominally the principal personage, had one of her by no means infrequent "difficulties" with one of her household servants, which, as usual, came into court. This time it was her chef, imported from Paris. The chef testified that the kitchen to which he was introduced as the scene of his labors and expected triumphs was a "little, dark, damp cubbyhole under the sidewalk," and that there "was not a proper cooking utensil to be found in the house." Nor, the chef complained, could he get them, though he fairly howled for means and appliances to cook with. No wonder these people are forced to fall back upon the second hand suppers and so-called dinners the caterer chooses to send them from his shop or kitchen. All the same, there are hundreds upon hundreds of people in this town who daily sit down to better dinners than the few formal ones given by the Four Hundred through the whole season, and, moreover, these dinners are cooked, as well as served, in their own houses.

#### WHY NOT?

Boston Globe.

Vermonters who make maple sugar next spring expect to get \$100,000 in bounties from the nation's treasury. Why shouldn't Vermonters who raise turkeys have a share of the spoils?

#### ALIEN LANDLORDS.

St. Louis Chronicle.

The alien land law of Texas was enacted by a Legislature composed of men who had seen millions of acres held out of use by men who could afford to wait until population swarming about the ground they held, and demanding access to it on any terms, should add immense sums to their wealth. Its repeal is demanded by the real estate men of the State, who see in the diminution of their commissions the business of the State paralyzed. Perhaps the legislators did not do the wisest thing in enacting that only citizens of Texas should possess her soil; had they exacted that the annual rental value of all land within the State must be paid into the State Treasury, they would have accomplished the exclusion of the non-resident landlord, and supplied a fund for public works that would have benefited her people immeasurably. But the Texans are feeling their way slowly toward the turn in the passage where the light shall appear.

#### THE FIRST KISS.

Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Constitution.

Sweetheart, 'twas but a while ago—it scarce seems yesterday,

Though now my hair is white as snow and yours is turning gray—

That, walking in the twilight haze, when bright stars blushed above,

You told me that you loved me, and I kissed you for that love!

The first kiss, dear; and then your hand—dear hand, so soft and sweet!

Far whiter than the white, sweet sand that twinkled 'neath your feet—

Laid tenderly within my own. Have queens such lovely hands?

No wonder that the whipporwills made sweet autumn lands!

It seemed to me that my poor heart would beat to death or break,

While all the world—sweetheart! sweetheart! seemed singing for your sake;

And every rose that barred the way in glad and dying grace,

Forgot its faded summer day, and, leaning, kissed your face!

I envied all the roses then, and all the rosy ways That blossomed 'neath our feet are still my life's bright yesterdays;

But, thinking of that first sweet kiss, and that first clasp of hands,

Life's whipporwills sing sweeter now through all the autumn's lands.

#### A WIFE'S REASON.

Bob Burdette.

"Now I'll tell you why I wouldn't go into the restaurant and have a cup of coffee with you while we were waiting for the train. I didn't like the way you asked me—keep quiet; I have the floor! Not half an hour before you said to Mr. Puffer: 'Come, let's get a cigar.' And away you went, holding his arm, and not giving him a chance to decline. When we met John O'Howdy on our way to luncheon, you said: 'Just in time, John, come take lunch with us.' And then, tonight, when we found the train an hour late, you looked at your watch, turned to me, and said in a questioning way: 'Would you like a cup of coffee?' And I did want it. I was tired and a little hungry, but I would have fainted before I would have accepted such an invitation. And you went away a little vexed at me and had your coffee and bread and butter by yourself—and didn't enjoy it very much. In effect you said to me: 'If you want a cup of coffee, if you really want it, I will buy it for you.' You are the best husband in the world, but do as nearly all the best husbands do. Why do you men seem to dole things out to your wives, when you fairly throw them to the men you know? Why don't you invite me heartily, as you invite men? Why didn't you say: 'Come, let's get a little coffee or something,' and take me

right along with you? You wouldn't say to a man 'Would you like me to buy a cigar?' Then why do you always issue your little invitations to treat in that way to me? Indeed, my dear husband, if men would only act towards their wives as heartily, cordially, as they do to men whom they meet, they would find cheerier companions at home than they could at the club."

#### IN THE GARDEN OF DREAMS.

Louise Chandler Moulton in Independent.

From a brier grown garden that nobody knows Save one lone bird with a vagrant tune,

The dreamer gathers a last sad rose—

The ghost of a season that once was June.

Pale are the blossoms that cluster here,

And lonesome the song of the mateless bird;

Yet linger and listen, O sweet and dear—

You shall catch of my soul the secret word.

#### THE PRINCIPLE IS UNIVERSAL.

Muscutah (Ill.) Herald.

Some things are easier to see than others that are just as obvious. The Springfield Republican readily notes the injustice of securing by law the exclusive enjoyment of natural pleasure resorts to adjacent residents; but it is blind to the fact that the principle applies whether the natural resort is one for pleasure or for work.

#### ASA FETIDA PILLS

Prescribed by Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, of Dwight, Ill., for La Grippe, are manufactured by Buck & Rayner, Chicago; coated with pure gelatine, pleasant to take. Price, 75 cents per 100, delivered free with full directions by Dr. Keeley.—*Adv.*

#### SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

##### PLATFORM

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1890.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and municipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to

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what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.

2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.

3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchange, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions blessings to all, and cause such an enormous production as such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

## ADVERTISEMENTS OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES MADE BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1890.

For each half inch or less a charge of \$10.00 per year is made for advertisements in this department.

### CONNECTICUT.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. Meets second and fourth Fridays of the month at 7.30 p. m. at parlors of J. Cairns, 72½ E. Main st. President, John Cairns; secretary, Arthur M. Dignam.

SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington single tax league. President, Edwin Gladmon; treas., R. J. Boyd; sec'y, Wm. Geddes, M.D. 1719 G. st., n. w.

### IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Mosena, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

### ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 519 Lincoln av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 735.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Aitchison, box E. K., South Chicago.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

WORCESTER.—Worcester single tax club. Meetings first Thursday of month, at Reform club hall, 606 Main st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., E. K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

### MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., H. B. Martin, Woods' block; sec., Oliver T. Erickson, 2903 Lyndale av., N.

### MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman. This committee is pushing a State single tax petition. Blanks sent on application. It is also forming syndicate for publication of local single tax papers throughout the United States at little or no expense. Write for circulars to Percy Pepon, sec., 513 Elm st., St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league. Tuesday evenings at rooms of the Clerk of Criminal Court, Four Courts, 12th street and Clark avenue. Pres., Hon. Dennis A. Ryan, 1616 Wash st.; sec., T. J. Smith, 1515 Taylor av.

### NEW YORK.

EASTERN DISTRICT single tax club. Monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, at 94 South Third street, Brooklyn. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

### OHIO.

DARTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Galloway; sec., W. W. Khe, 105 East 5th st.

### PENNSYLVANIA.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec., E. D. Burielgh, 18 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month, at Vernon Hall, cor. Main st. and Chelton av., at 8 p. m.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society. Meets every Thursday and Sunday at 8 p. m. Social meetings second Tuesday, No. 30 South Broad st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

POTTSVILLE.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weitzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 725 Penn st. Pres., Wm. H. McKinney; sec., C. B. Friar, 1011 Penn st.

### TEXAS.

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#### REGINALD CANNING & CO.

WHEREAS the firm of Reginald Canning & Company, composed of Reginald Canning and John S. Dodge, was dissolved January 1st, 1892, by the retirement of John S. Dodge, and had transacted business and had its principal place of business, in the city of New York, and was a firm having business relations with foreign countries;

Now, THEREFORE, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided, I, Reginald Canning, do hereby declare that I am the only person dealing under said firm name, and that my place of abode is in the city of Yonkers, and that my principal place of business is in the city, county and State of New York.

Dated New York City, January 2d, 1892.

#### REGINALD CANNING.

City and County of New York, ss:  
On this 11th day of January, 1892, before me personally came and appeared Reginald Canning, to me known and known to me to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing certificate, and being by me first duly sworn, acknowledged that he executed the same.

CHARLES NETTLETON,

Notary Public.

#### MOSLE BROTHERS.

WHEREAS, George R. Mosle has been admitted a member of the co-partnership of Mosle Bros., theretofore composed of George Mosle and Adolf Pavenstedt, and the business conducted by said firm is to be continued by the subscribers, and

WHEREAS, the said co-partnership and the firms preceding it in business, have had business relations with foreign countries and have transacted business in this State for more than three years, under the firm name of Mosle Bros., and the said George Mosle and Adolf Pavenstedt were co-partners in said firm,

Now, THEREFORE, we do hereby declare that we, George Mosle, whose place of abode is at No. 31 West Fifty-sixth street in the City of New York; Adolf Pavenstedt, whose place of abode is in the Village of New Brighton, Staten Island, in the County of Richmond and State of New York; and George R. Mosle, whose place of abode is in the Village of New Brighton, Staten Island, County of Richmond, State of New York, are the persons dealing under the said name of Mosle Bros.

WE, MOSLE,

ADOLF PAVENSTEDT,  
GEO. R. MOSLE.

STATE OF NEW YORK,  
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, ss.

On this first day of February, 1892, before me personally appeared George Mosle, Adolf Pavenstedt and George R. Mosle, to me known and known to me to be the individuals described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and they severally acknowledged to me that they executed the same.

EDMUND L. BAYLIES,

Notary Public,  
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We perspire a pint a day without knowing it; ought to. If not there's trouble ahead. The obstructed skin becomes sallow or breaks out in pimples. The trouble goes deeper, but this is trouble enough.

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There is ease for those far gone in consumption—not recovery—ease.

"When past cure, there is strength, and comfort, ease and prolonging of life, in Scott's Emulsion. —From CAREFUL LIVING."

There is cure for those not far gone.

"Consider again what Consumption is. It is the growth and reproduction of this germ in the lung, when the lung is too weak to conquer it. The remedy is strength.

The adjustment of lung-strength to overcome germ-strength is going on all the time in us. Health for the lungs is fighting this germ with the odds in our favor. Consumption is fighting this germ with the odds against us.

What will cure consumption after you know you have got it?

You do not know you have got it until the fight has been going on against you for some time. It is serious now.

Before it began you were in poor health, and your health has been getting poorer all the time ever since.

The germs have got a good start, and your germ-fighting strength is a good way behind. The question is: Can you now, with the added burden of this disease, recover strength enough to conquer it?

You may or may not. The only way to find out is by trying. Whether you will succeed or not depends on how far along you are in consumption, and how carefully you can live.

Careful living has different meanings for different persons. Your doctor is the one to find out its meaning for you, and to point out the way to health for you. He will tell you that the food to fight consumption with is fat; and that the easiest food-fat is cod-liver oil when partly digested, broken up into tiny drops, as in Scott's Emulsion. —From CAREFUL LIVING.

There is prevention—better than cure—for those who are threatened. Who are threatened?

Every one recognizes the change from being plump to being less plump as a sign of letting down of health.

Whoever is in a low state of health, whether inherited or acquired, whether he has

ever suspected a tendency to consumption or not, inherited or acquired, may well take thought to fortify himself against it. —From CAREFUL LIVING.

The remedy—careful living.

This careful living is nothing more than the practice of being comfortable. It belongs more and more to modern

life. It is civilized life. —From CAREFUL LIVING.

\*CAREFUL LIVING, a small book on the relation of fat to health in the light of medical science of to-day, will be sent free to those who write for it to Scott & Bowne, 132 South Fifth Avenue, New York.